



SPECIAL

1
\$1.50
CAN. \$2.00
U.K. 60p
1988
APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY
C.A.S.

THE DOOM PATROL!

and

SUICIDE SQUAD



DC
COMICS
AREN'T
JUST
FOR
KIDS!

BY OSTRANDER KUPPERBERG, LARSEN & LEWIS



ERIK
LARSEN
200 EV



SPECIAL

THE DOOM PATROL!

and

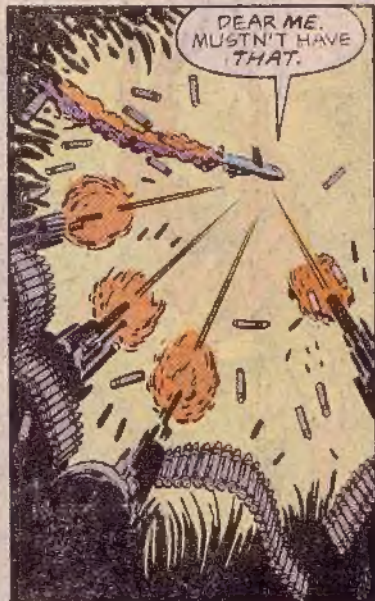
SUICIDE SQUAD

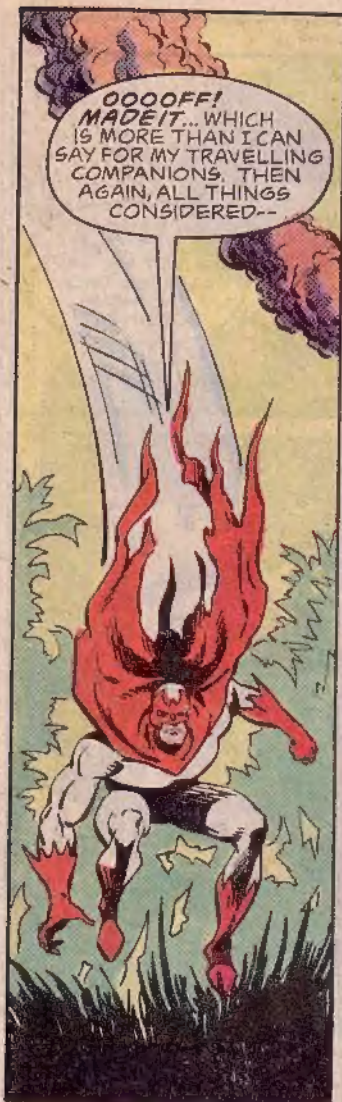
1
\$1.50
CAN. \$2.00
U.K. 60p
1988
APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

DC
COMICS
AREN'T
JUST
FOR
KIDS!

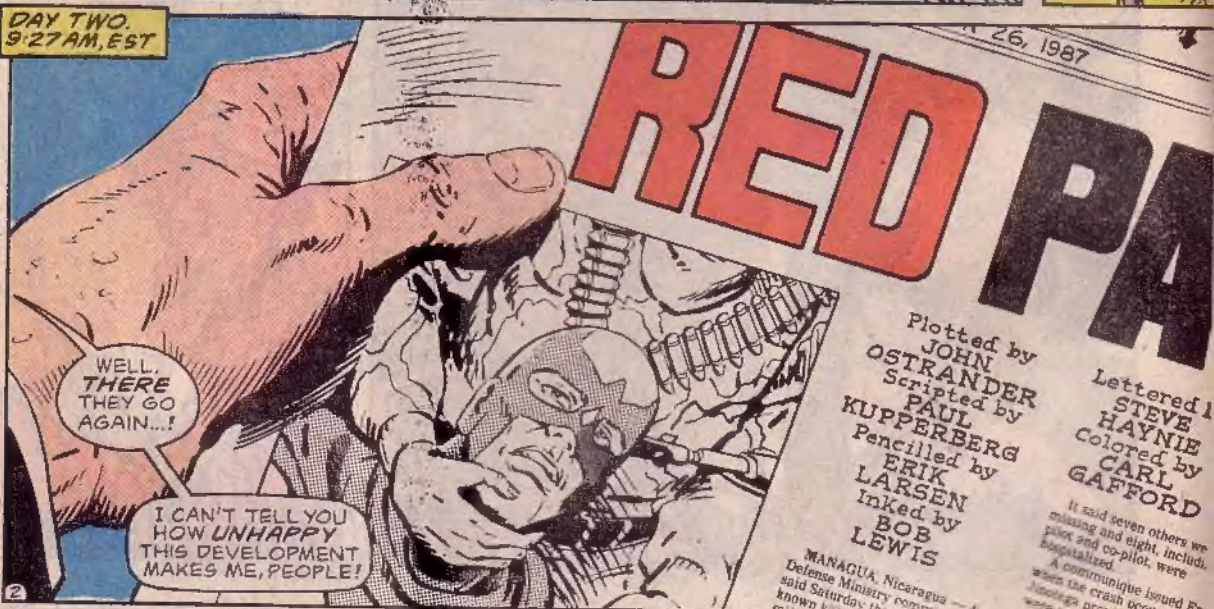
BY OSTRANDER, KUPPERBERG, LARSEN & LEWIS

DAY ONE.
7:17 AM, CST.





DAY TWO.
9:27 AM, EST





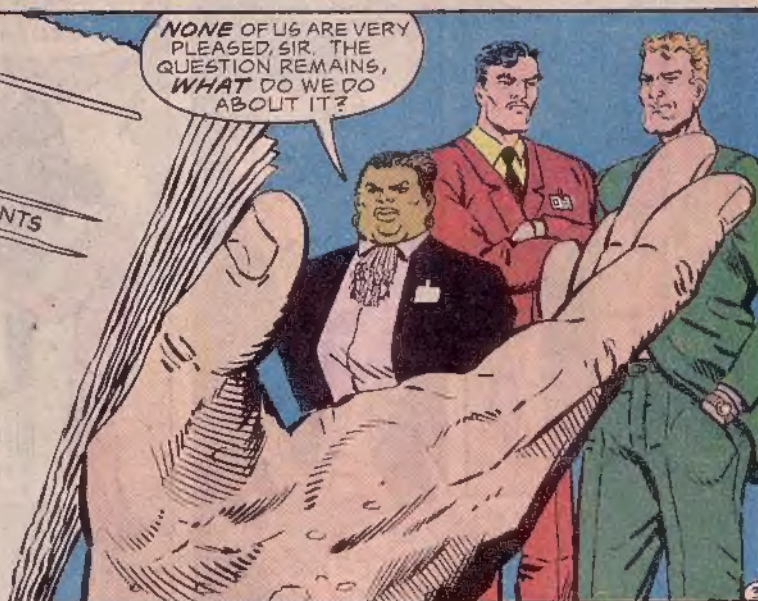
tonicle

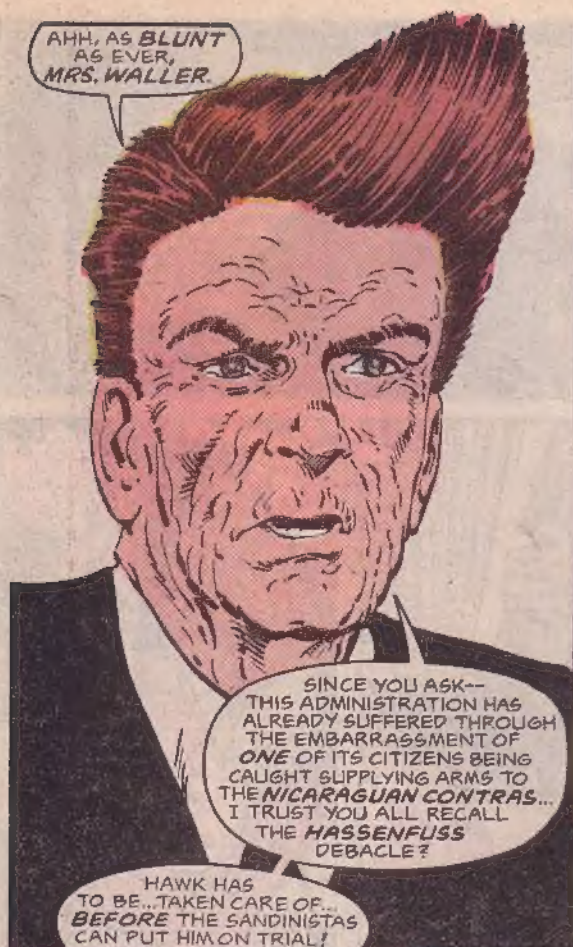
WN"

75 CENTS

MIKE GOLD Edited by ROBERT GREENBERGER

The Soviet-made helicopter was hit by a U.S.-made missile in north of Managua.





AHH, AS BLUNT
AS EVER,
MRS. WALLER.

SINCE YOU ASK--
THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS
ALREADY SUFFERED THROUGH
THE EMBARRASSMENT OF
ONE OF ITS CITIZENS BEING
CAUGHT SUPPLYING ARMS TO
THE NICARAGUAN CONTRAS...
I TRUST YOU ALL RECALL
THE HASSENFUSS
DEBACLE?

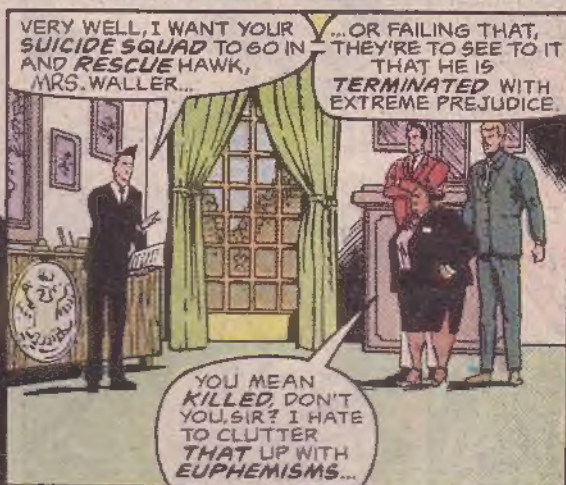
HAWK HAS
TO BE...TAKEN CARE OF...
BEFORE THE SANDINISTAS
CAN PUT HIM ON TRIAL!



WHAT
EXACTLY
ARE YOU
TRYING
TO TELL
US, MR.
PRESIDENT?

I THINK IT'S
OBVIOUS,
AMANDA. HE
WANTS US TO...

I WANT TO HEAR
IT FROM YOU,
SIR. I DON'T WANT
THERE TO BE ANY
DOUBTS...LATER ON.



VERY WELL, I WANT YOUR
SUICIDE SQUAD TO GO IN
AND RESCUE HAWK,
MRS. WALLER...

...OR FAILING THAT,
THEY'RE TO SEE TO IT
THAT HE IS
TERMINATED WITH
EXTREME PREJUDICE.

YOU MEAN
KILLED, DON'T
YOU, SIR? I HATE
TO CLUTTER
THAT UP WITH
EUPHEMISMS...



I DON'T LIKE
THIS, MATT!

I'M NOT
THRILLED BY
IT EITHER,
JACK--



--BUT AMANDA WALLER'S
TASK FORCE X AND SUICIDE
SQUAD HAS BEEN GRABBING ALL
THE GLORY AROUND HERE LATELY.
SHE'S MAKING US LOOK BAD.



MAYBE IT'S ABOUT TIME
WE RETURNED THE
FAVOR.

HOW? SHE'S IN
SOLID WITH THE
PRESIDENT. HER
GROUP WOULD HAVE
TO MESS UP PRETTY
BAD TO TAKE ANY
SERIOUS HEAT.



I THINK THAT CAN BE
ARRANGED, MATT.
LISTEN, REMEMBER
VAL VOSTOK?

SHE'S BACK WITH THE
DOOM PATROL. WE
USED TO BE CHUMMY,
AND I THINK MAYBE
I CAN CON HER INTO
DOING THE JOB FOR
US...!

BELLE REVE
FEDERAL PRISON.
12:33 PM, CST.

THIS ONE
SMELLS...
EXCEPT IT
COMES STRAIGHT
FROM THE
PRESIDENT.

IT'S NOT A MISSION I'D
HAVE PICKED FOR THE
SUICIDE SQUAD, COLONEL
FLAG. IT'S **HIGH PROFILE**
...AND IF IT GOES SOUR,
IT'LL JEOPARDIZE THE
SECURITY OF THE SQUAD.

THEN THERE'S THE
QUESTIONABLE
MORALITY OF THE
ENTIRE VENTURE...

LIKE YOU SAID,
MRS. WALLER,
YOU HAVE YOUR
ORDERS.

NOW I HAVE
MINE.

WE'RE BOTH
GOOD SOLDIERS.
WE GO WHERE
WE'RE **TOLD.**

MOSCOW, RUSSIAN SOVIET
FEDERATED SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC, 9:58 PM, GMT.

(CONFIRMATION FROM MANAGUA HAS
BEEN RECEIVED, COMRADE. THE
SANDINISTAS HAVE **GRACIOUSLY**
AGREED TO OUR OFFER OF AID.)

(AS THOUGH
THE FOOLS HAD
A CHOICE...)

(FRANKLY, I DO NOT
BELIEVE SENDING
THE **ROCKET RED**
TROOPS TO
NICARAGUA TO
BE THE **WISEST**
POLICY.)

(WHAT IF THEIR
PRESENCE IS
DISCOVERED?
IT COULD BE
DISASTROUS!)

(TRUE, SUCH A
SHOW OF FORCE
COULD ONLY BE A
PROVOCATION.
TAKING OVER SECURITY
AND ESCORTING THE
AMERICAN PRISONER
BACK TO MOSCOW
SHOULD HAVE BEEN
LEFT TO MY KGB.

<AH, YES--YOUR SPECIAL OPERATIVE. HE WOULD INDEED HAVE BEEN THE PERFECT CHOICE.>

<BUT OURS IS NOT TO QUESTION THE WORD OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.>

<I WOULDN'T DREAM OF IT, COMRADE.>

<BUT THE REALITY IS GOING TO PROVE VERY DIFFERENT!>

DAY THREE. NICARAGUA. 10:00 AM, CST.

I STILL SAY WE ARE WASTING OUR TIME. THE POLITICAL SQUABBLES OF THIS NATION ARE NONE OF OUR CONCERN.

AT LEAST THEY **SHOULDN'T** BE, ARANI. LAST TIME THE U.S. STARTED STICKING ITS NOSE INTO A SITUATION LIKE THIS ONE...

...WE WOUND UP IN VIETNAM. I WAS IN THAT ONE AND I DON'T WANT MY KIDS TO HAVE TO GO THROUGH THAT **HERE**.

YOU AIN'T GOT KIDS, JOSHUA, AND LIKE IT OR **NOT**, DON'T FORGET THERE'S AN **AMERICAN** CITIZEN BEIN' HELD BY THESE CLOWNS.

ONE WHO HAS BEEN EARMARKED FOR **DEATH** BY HIS OWN GOVERNMENT! THAT IS **UNCONSCIONABLE**, CLIFF.

BELIEVE ME, MY FRIENDS, I WOULD NOT HAVE INVOLVED THE **DOOM PATROL** IF MY CONTACT HADN'T ASSURED ME THAT THE TEAM OF ASSASSINS IS ALREADY AFTER HAWK.

GEE WHIZ, YOU MEAN THE FEDS **AREN'T** ON THE UP AND UP? THAT'S QUITE A **SHOCK**, VAL.

WANNA KEEP THE **SARCASM** DOWN TO A DULL **ROAR**, MAN?

LOOK AT THE **POVERTY**...IT IS NEARLY AS BAD AS WHAT I CAME FROM IN INDIA.

WHAT DO THEY DO WITH ALL THAT MONEY CONGRESS IS ALWAYS ALLOCATING TO THIS COUNTRY?

THAT AIN'T FOR **FOOD**, RANI. IT'S FOR **GUNS**.

MAN, THIS **WHOLE** THING STINKS. I MEAN, WHAT THE HELL WAS HAWK DOING RUNNING GUNS TO THE CONTRAS ANYWAY?

STUPIDITY IS NOT A **CAPITAL OFFENSE**, JOSHUA.

HEY! IN CASE YOU'RE FOR-GETTIN', WE'RE **SUPPOSED** T'BE HERE **UNDERCOVER** ... THAT MEANS STAYIN' **INCONSPICUOUS**.

YES. LET US GET THIS **DONE** SO WE CAN RETURN TO KANSAS CITY.

I'M WITH YOU, LADY.

THEN LET'S GET **ORGANIZED** FOR A CHANGE.

WAY I SEE IT, WE GOT AN **EDGE** OVER WHOEVER'S BEEN SENT TO **OFF** HAWK BEFORE THE SANDINISTAS PUT HIM ON TRIAL AND THINGS GET **REALEMBARRASSIN'**--

--WE KNOW THEY'RE HERE, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW WE'RE ON TO 'EM.

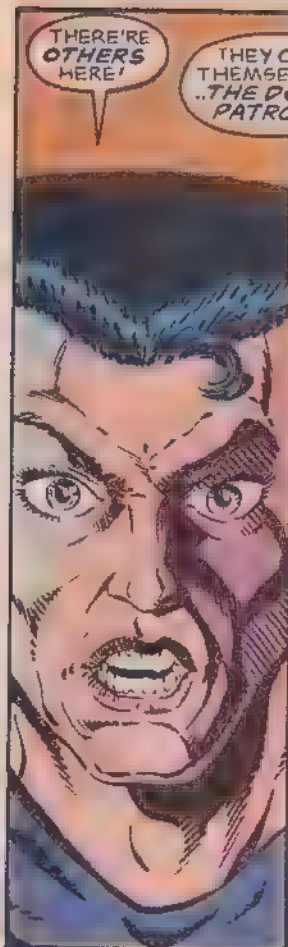
BUT WE DON'T KNOW **WHO** THEY ARE, CLIFF.

SO FINDIN' **WHERE** THEY'RE HOLDIN' HAWK'S **PRIORITY ONE**.

THINK WE SHOULD SPLIT UP AND WIDEN THE SEARCH?

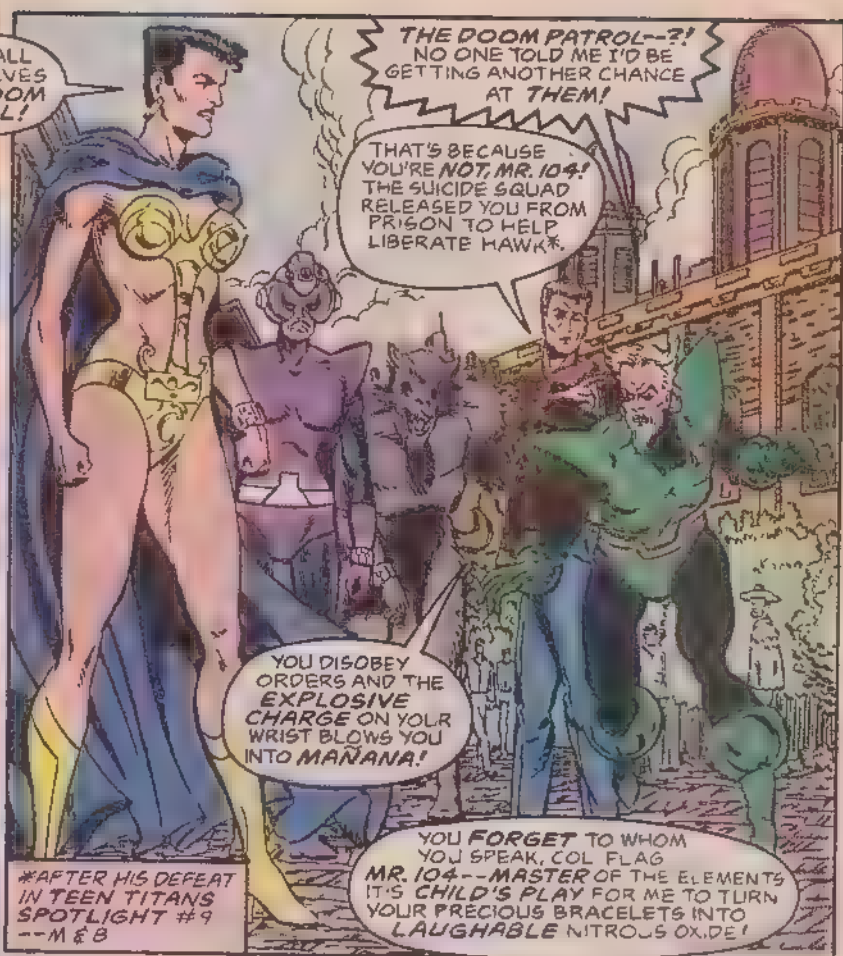
LONGAS WE AIN'T ATTRACTIN' ATTENTION, LET'S HANG TOGETHER A WHILE LONGER.

JUST KEEP YOUR **EYES** PEELED, TROOPS.



THERE'RE OTHERS HERE!

THEY CALL THEMSELVES ..THE DOOM PATROL!



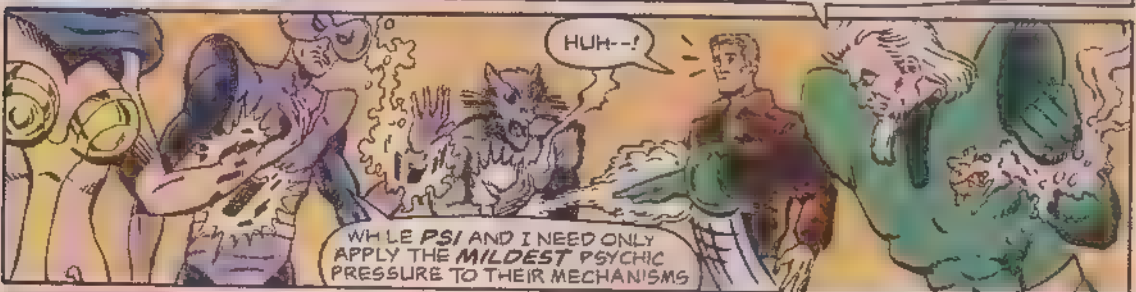
THE DOOM PATROL--?! NO ONE TOLD ME I'D BE GETTING ANOTHER CHANCE AT THEM!

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT, MR. 104! THE SUICIDE SQUAD RELEASED YOU FROM PRISON TO HELP LIBERATE HAWK.

YOU DISOBEY ORDERS AND THE EXPLOSIVE CHARGE ON YOUR WRIST BLOWS YOU INTO MANANA!

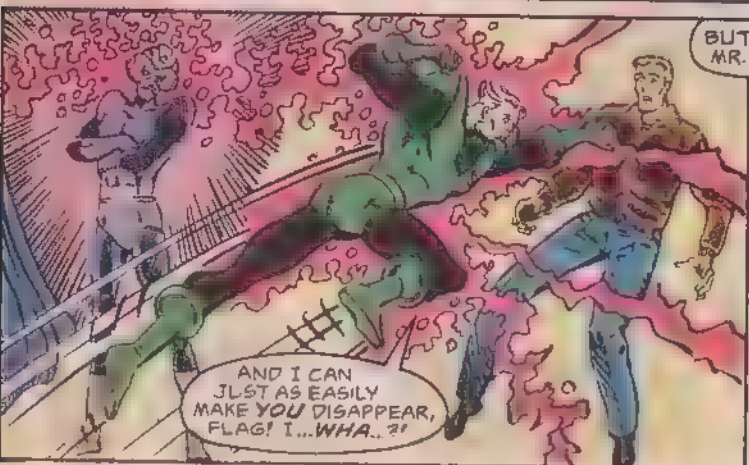
#AFTER HIS DEFEAT IN TEEN TITANS SPOTLIGHT #9 --M & B

YOU FORGET TO WHOM YOU SPEAK, COL FLAG MR. 104--MASTER OF THE ELEMENTS IT'S CHILD'S PLAY FOR ME TO TURN YOUR PRECIOUS BRACELETS INTO LAUGHABLE NITROUS OXIDE!

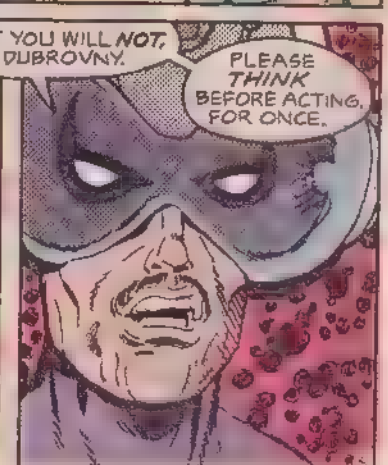


HUH--!

WHILE PSI AND I NEED ONLY APPLY THE MILDEST PSYCHIC PRESSURE TO THEIR MECHANISMS



AND I CAN JUST AS EASILY MAKE YOU DISAPPEAR, FLAG! I...WHA...?!



BUT YOU WILL NOT, MR. DUBOVNY.

PLEASE THINK BEFORE ACTING, FOR ONCE.

WE ALL AGREED TO TAKE THIS MISSION WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ITS SUCCESS WOULD WIN US **FULL PARDONS** FOR OUR CRIMINAL PASTS EXCEPT FOR PSI. SHE DOESN'T KNOW **WHERE** SHE IS FROM OR **WHAT** EVENT NEARLY SHATTERED HER PSYCHE!

THE SUICIDE SQUAD HAS PROMISED TO HELP **RESTORE** HER MIND AND DEVELOP HER VAST PSIONIC ABILITIES. IT IS **SHE** WHO IS PREVENTING ANYONE FROM SEEING US! I CAN HELP HER MEND...

...AND THEN I CAN HAVE MY **FREEDOM**. I'M GROWING OLD, 104.

I NEED THAT PARDON SO THAT I CAN LIVE MY LIFE OUT IN **PEACE**. YOU WILL NO DOUBT USE **YOURS** TO RETURN TO CRIME

I DON'T CARE IF YOU TRY TO DISRUPT THIS MISSION IN **ANY** WAY I WILL **FRY** YOUR BRAINS! AND **THAT** IS MORE BINDING THAN ANY BRACELET

THEN LET'S GET ON WITH IT HAVE YOU **LOCATED** HAWK YET THINKER?

WE HAVE BEEN SEEKING HIS MENTAL PATTERN, COL. FLAG PSI?

I HAVE HIM, THINKER. SEE IT? THE OLD SPANISH FORTRESS WE PASSED AT THE MOUTH OF THE BAY.

LOTS OF **SOLDIERS** THERE TOO

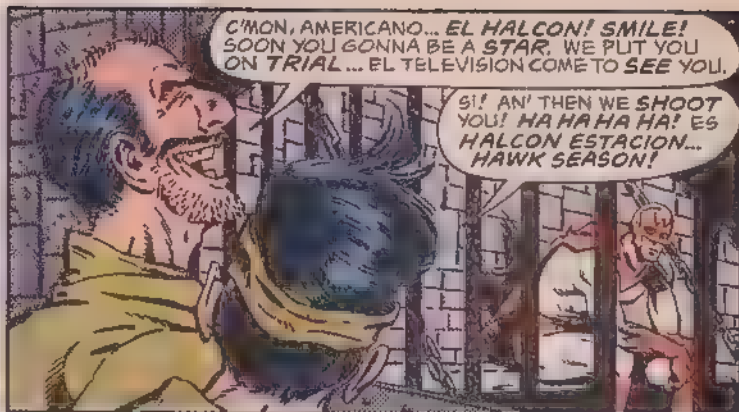
THE NAME OF THE GAME IS **STEALTH**, SQUAD. WE'RE HERE UNDER **DEEP COVER**!

FOR NOW

SURE. HAWK IS BIG TIME **PROPAGANDA** FOR THESE GUYS AND THEY'RE NOT ABOUT TO LET HIM GET AWAY.

BUT I OWE YOU OLD MAN AND MR 104 PAYS HIS DEBTS JUST YOU WAIT

9 56 PM, CST.



DAY FOUR. 2:22 AM, CST.

SURE, I SAID.
WE CAN GO RIGHT
IN, I SAID.

BUT WE GOTTA
KEEP IT QUIET,
I SAID.

IF WE'RE GONNA
MAKE NOISE, THEY'RE
GONNA CATCH US--

--AND THAT'S GONNA MAKE THIS
MISSION MORE OF A HASSLE'N IT'S
GOTTA BE! SO .BOOM, YA
GOTTA GO KNOCK OVER THAT
BUCKET...!

I AM HERE
AGAINST MY WILL
AND I AM NOT
COMPLAINING AS
MUCH AS YOU

STOP ARGUING,
BOTH OF YOU! MY
NEGATIVE ENERGY HAS
INCAPACITATED WHATEVER
SOLDIERS SLIPPED
PAST YOU...

AND ONCE
I HAVE
RETURNED
TO MY
BODY

WE CAN GET
ON WITH THE
SEARCH FOR
HAWK,
JOSHUA?

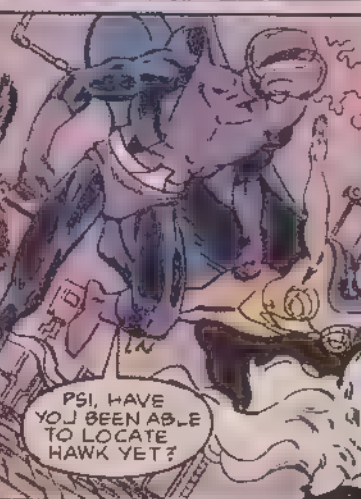
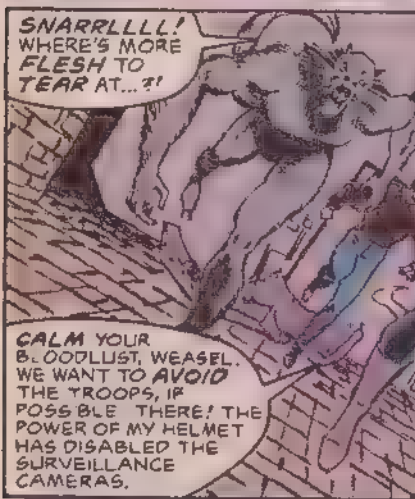
JUST A
SECOND,
VAL

YOU
MISSED
ONE.

¿QUE?

WHAMM!

2:24 AM, CST.





THEY ARE
COMING



HOW THE HECK
MANY GUARDS
THEY GOT
HERE?

TOO
MANY,
MAN



KRAKKLE

WHAM



...AND EVEN
MORE BELOW.
I'M TELLING
YOU, CLIFF, THIS
IS GETTING
TIGHT.



I AGREE
I BELIEVE
THE TIME FOR
SUBTLETY HAS
PASSED

FOR ONCE,
VALENTINA AND
I ARE IN
AGREEMENT.
CLIFF

SO WHAT YOU GUYS'RE
TRYIN' T'TELL ME IS--



KWRESH!

WE
GOTTA
BOOGIE!



RAT-A-TAT
TAT-TAT!

ALL RIGHT!
WE WOKE
EVERYBODY
UP WITH THAT
MOVE

I CAN GET
YOU WERE BRIEFED
ON THIS JOINT,
VAL... WHERE'S THE
DUNGEONS AT?



AROUND
TOWARDS THE
REAR OF THE
CASTLE, I
BELIEVE

SURE HOPE
YOU'RE
RIGHT, BABE



HURRY,
DOOM PATROL!
WE EH?!
WHO..?!

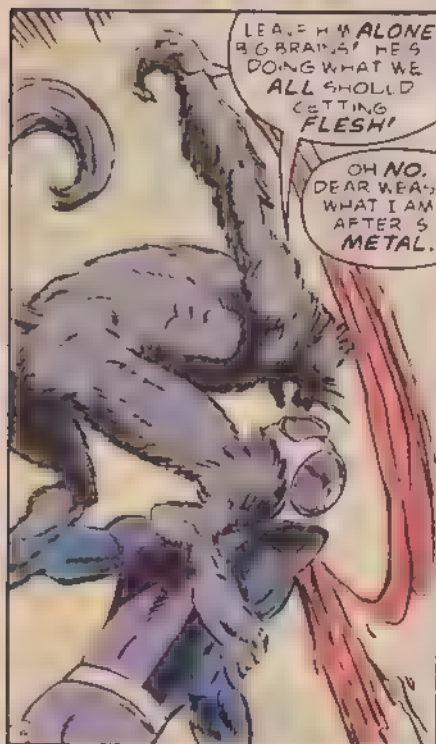


YOU
KNOW THESE
GUYS ?!

EH--?! COLONEL
RICK FLAG. ?!?

THERE!
I TOLD YOU I
SAID THEY
WERE!

MAN WER'IN
INTO A BUNCH'A
WEIRDOS IN THE
MIDDLE'A SAN SALVADOR
AND THE LITTLE LADY
FROM MOSCOW
KNOWS EM!
SHEESH!



LEAVE HIM ALONE
BOBBY! HE'S
DOING WHAT WE
ALL SHOULD
BE GETTING
FLESH!

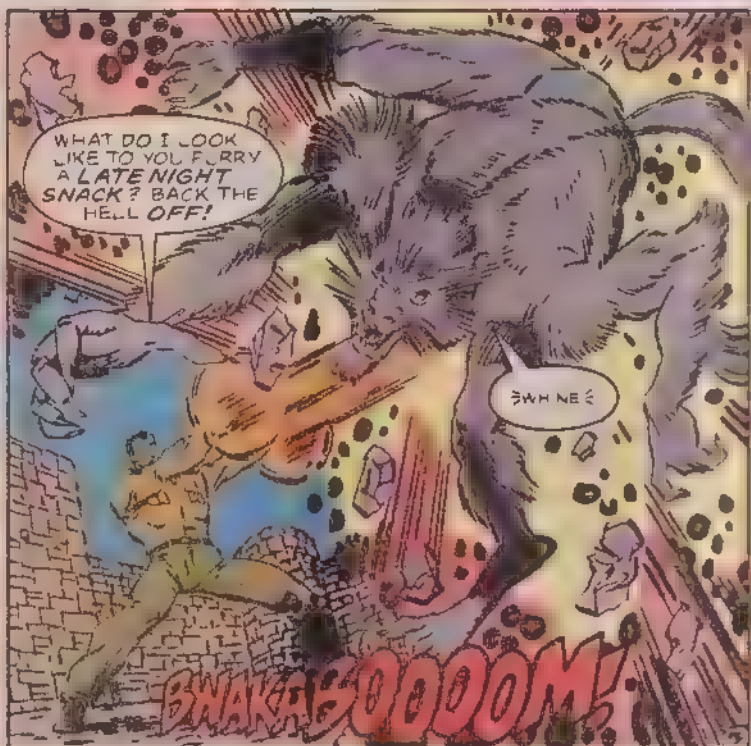
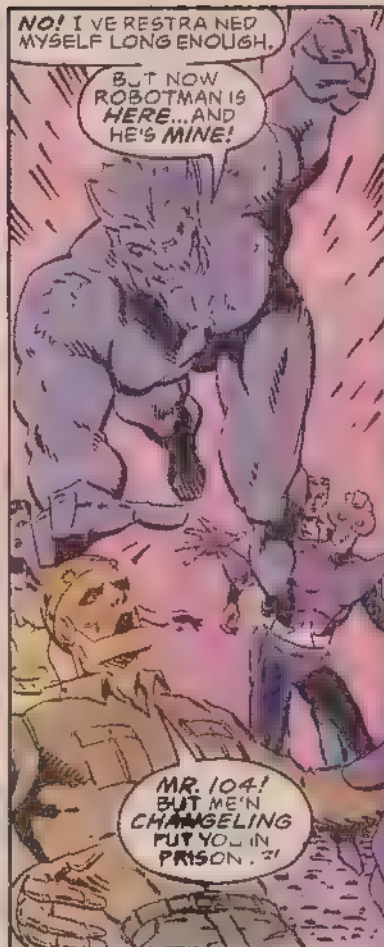
OH NO,
DEAR WER'EL!
WHAT I AM
AFTER IS
METAL...

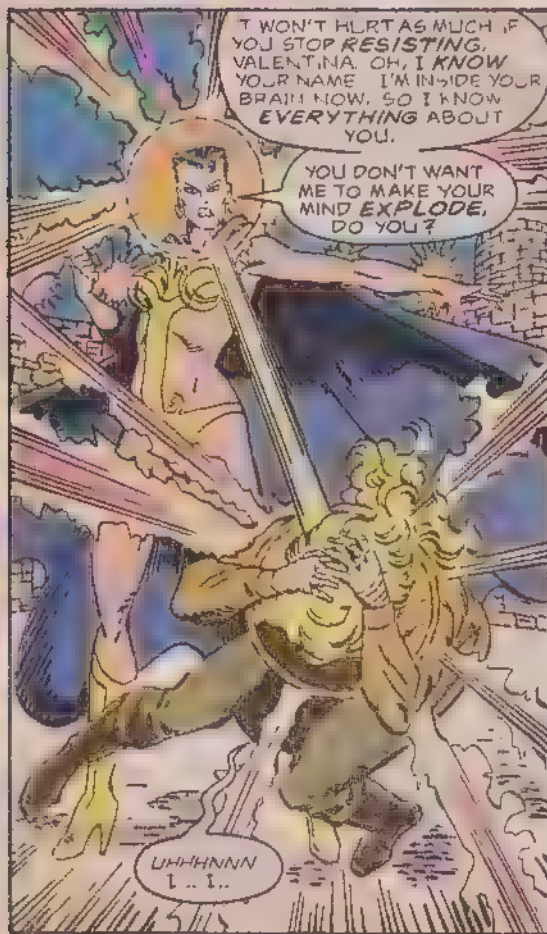


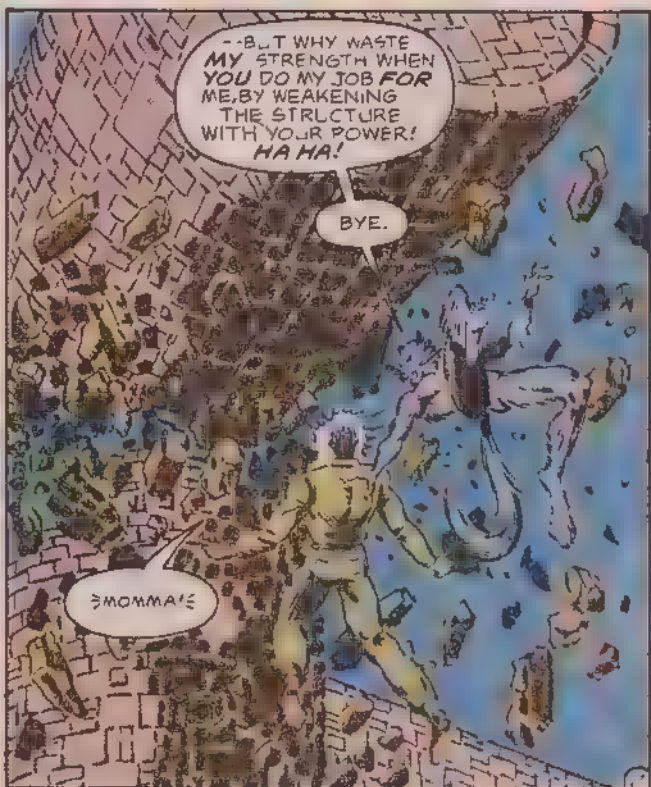
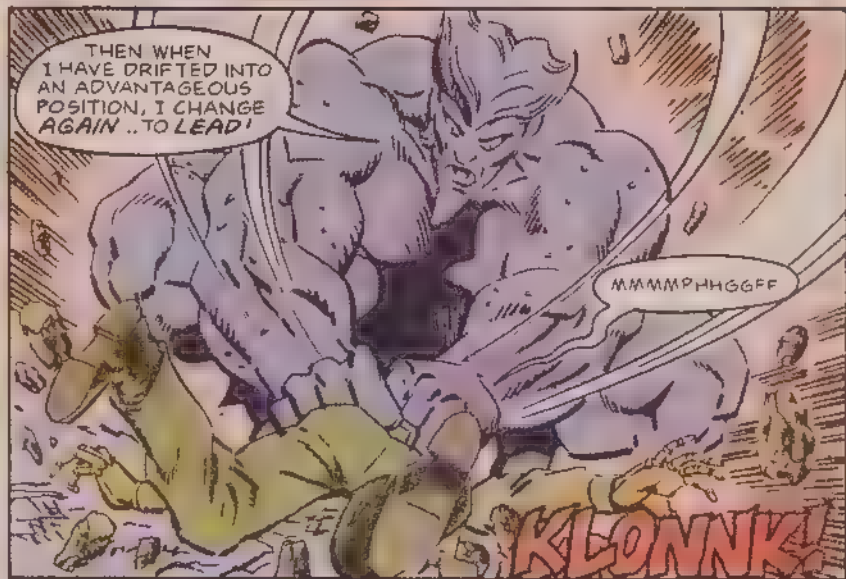
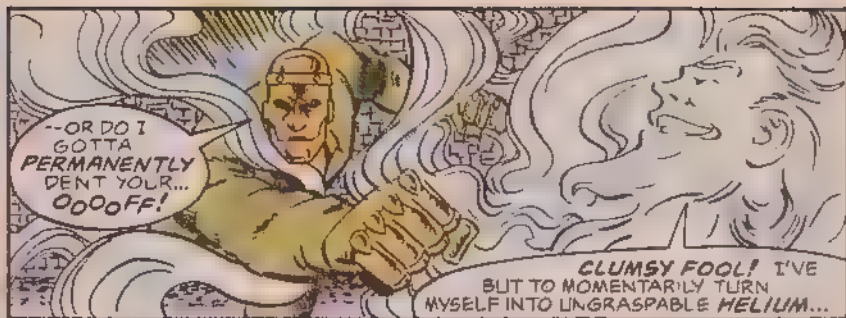
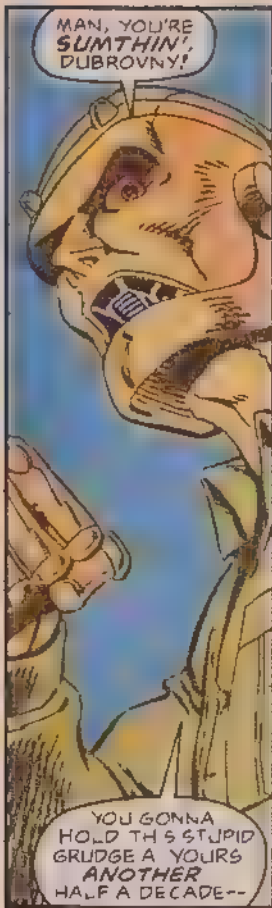
...SUCH AS I
HAVE BECOME
TO DESTROY
MY FLEE!

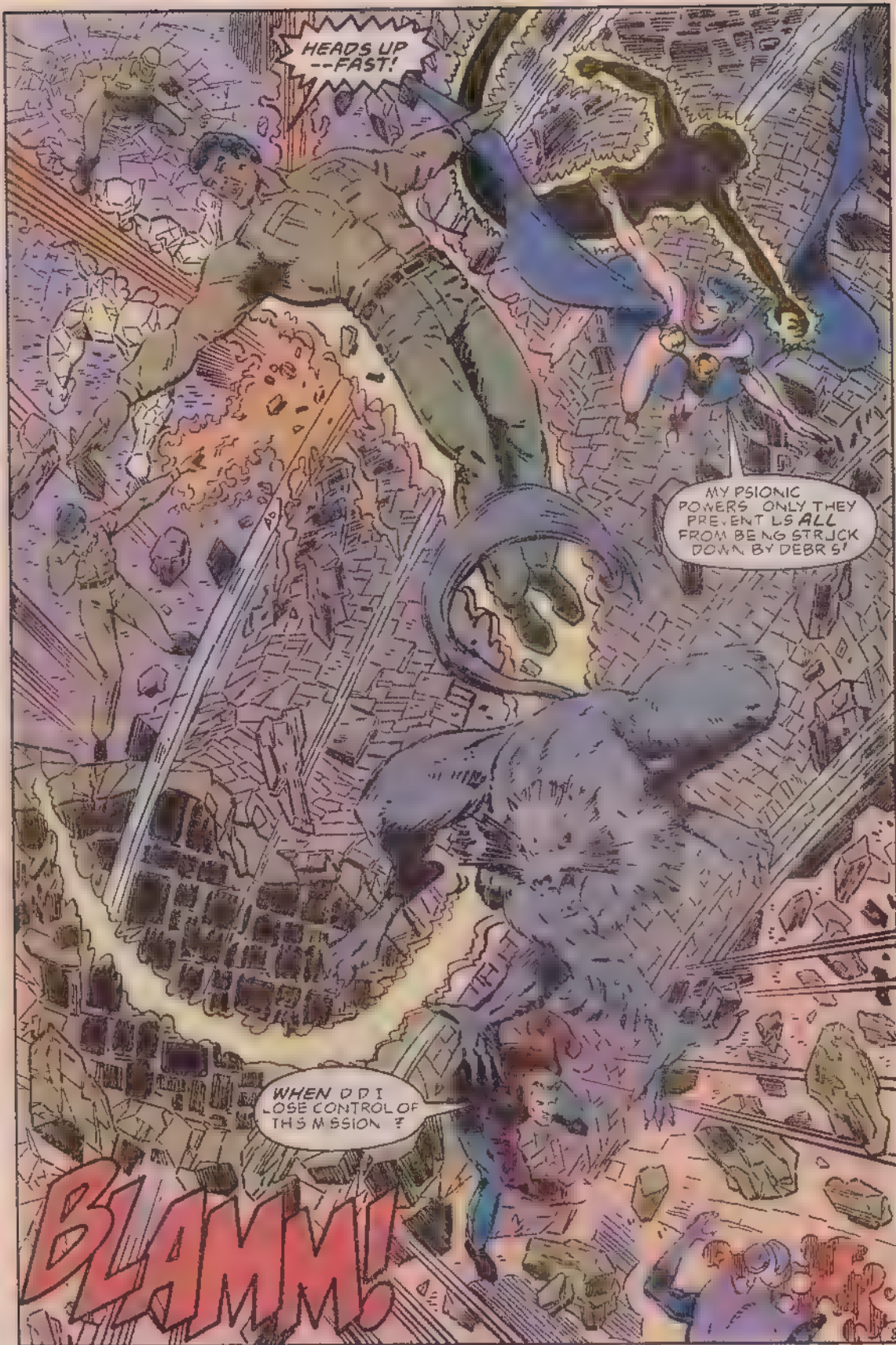


PHOOIE!
WHAT GOOD IS
METAL? I'LL
EAT... DARK
MEAT'S GOOD!







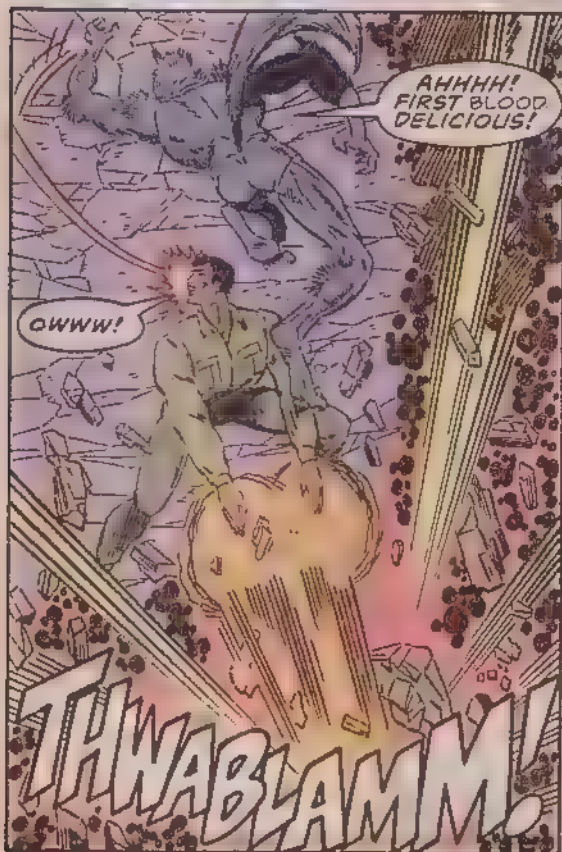
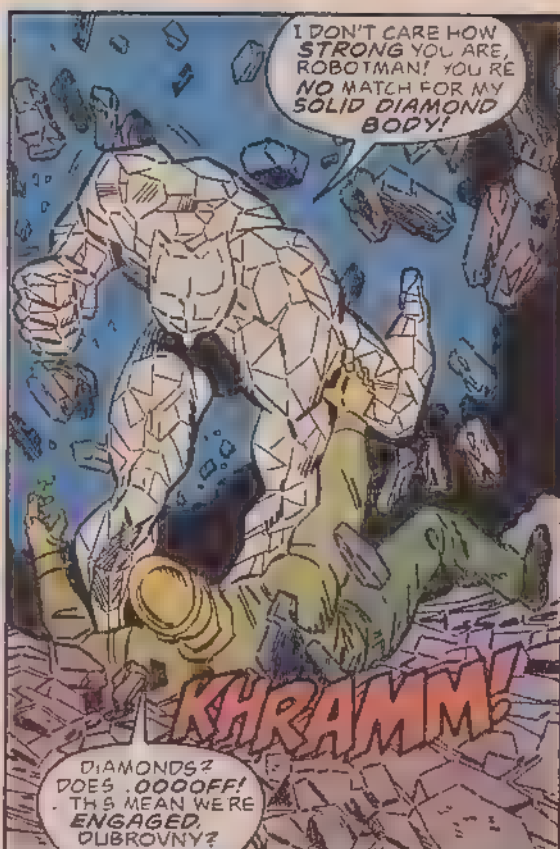
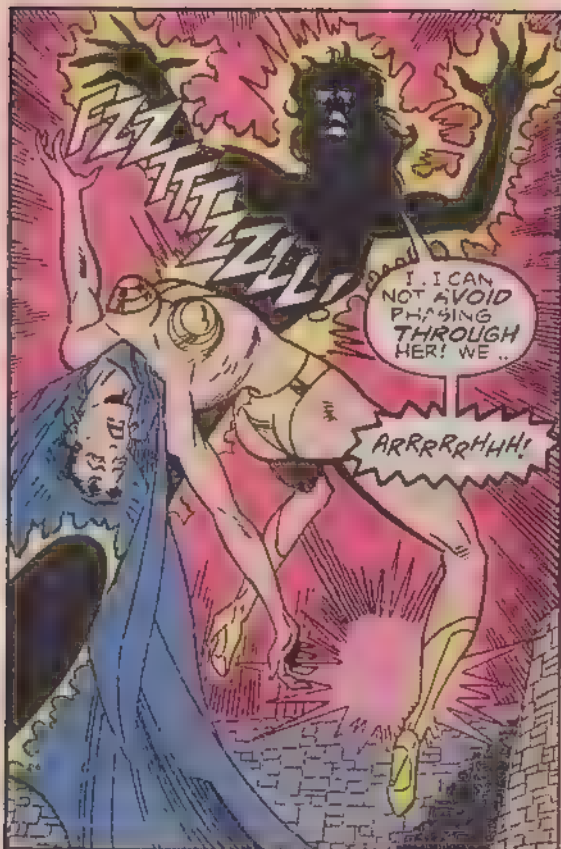


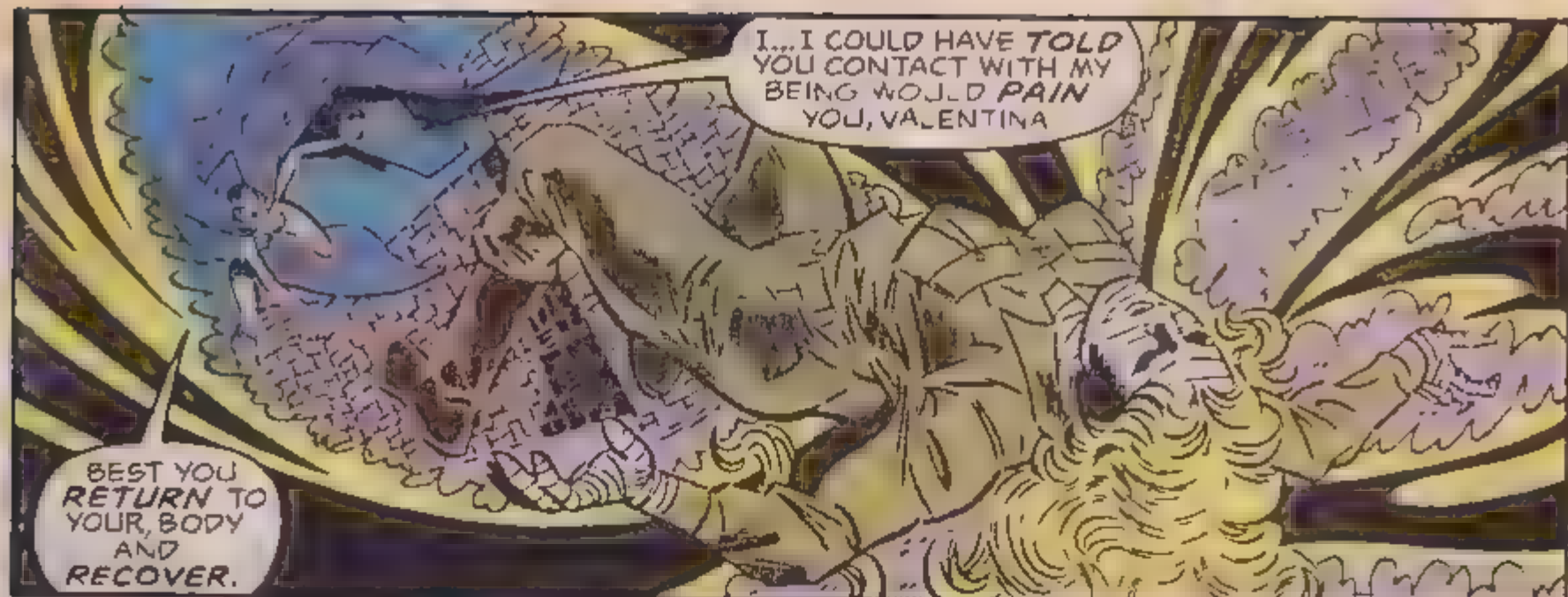
HEADS UP
--FAST!

MY PSIONIC
POWERS ONLY THEY
PREVENT US ALL
FROM BEING STRUCK
DOWN BY DEBRIS!

WHEN DID I
LOSE CONTROL OF
THIS MISSION?

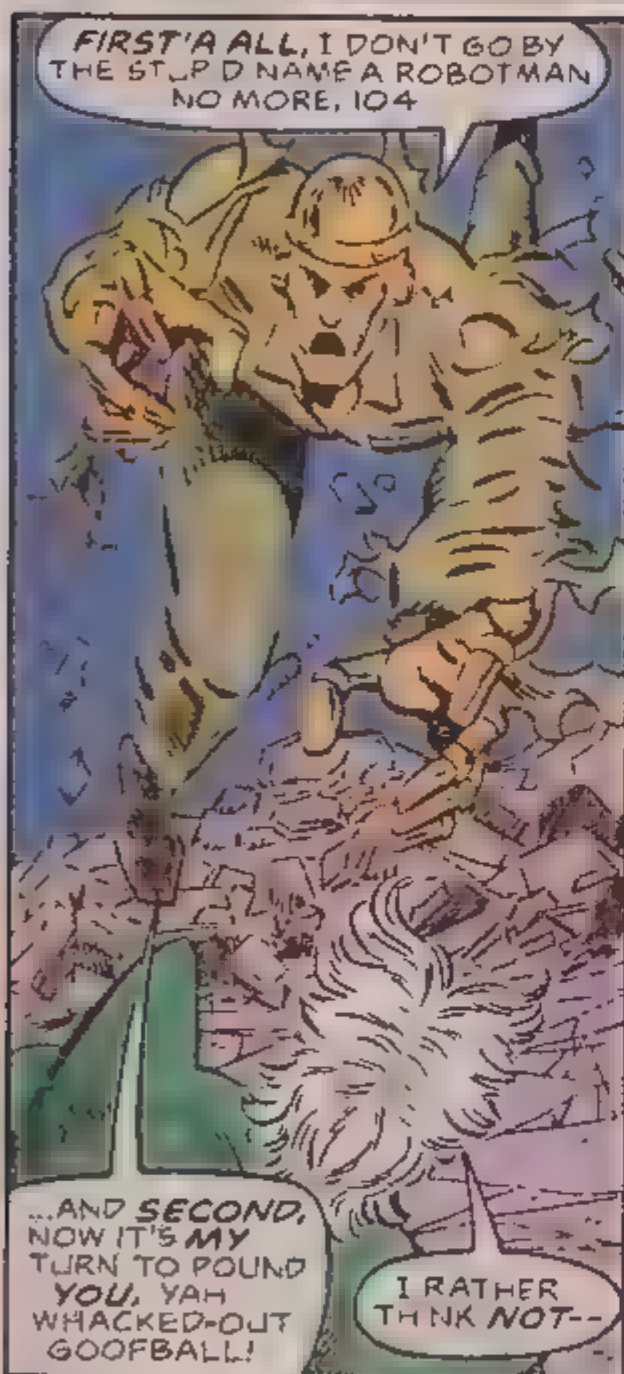
BLAMM!





I... I COULD HAVE TOLD
YOU CONTACT WITH MY
BEING WOULD PAIN
YOU, VALENTINA

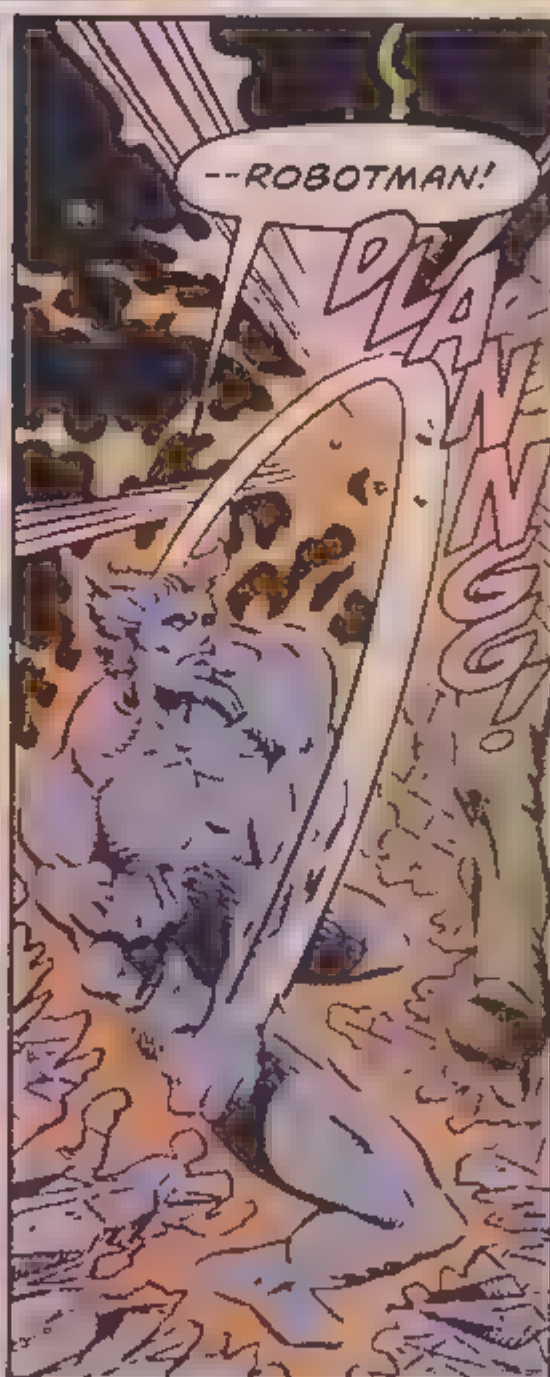
BEST YOU
RETURN TO
YOUR BODY
AND
RECOVER.



FIRST' A ALL, I DON'T GO BY
THE STUPID NAME A ROBOTMAN
NO MORE, 104

...AND SECOND,
NOW IT'S MY
TURN TO POUND
YOU, YAH
WHACKED-OUT
GOOFBALL!

I RATHER
THINK NOT--



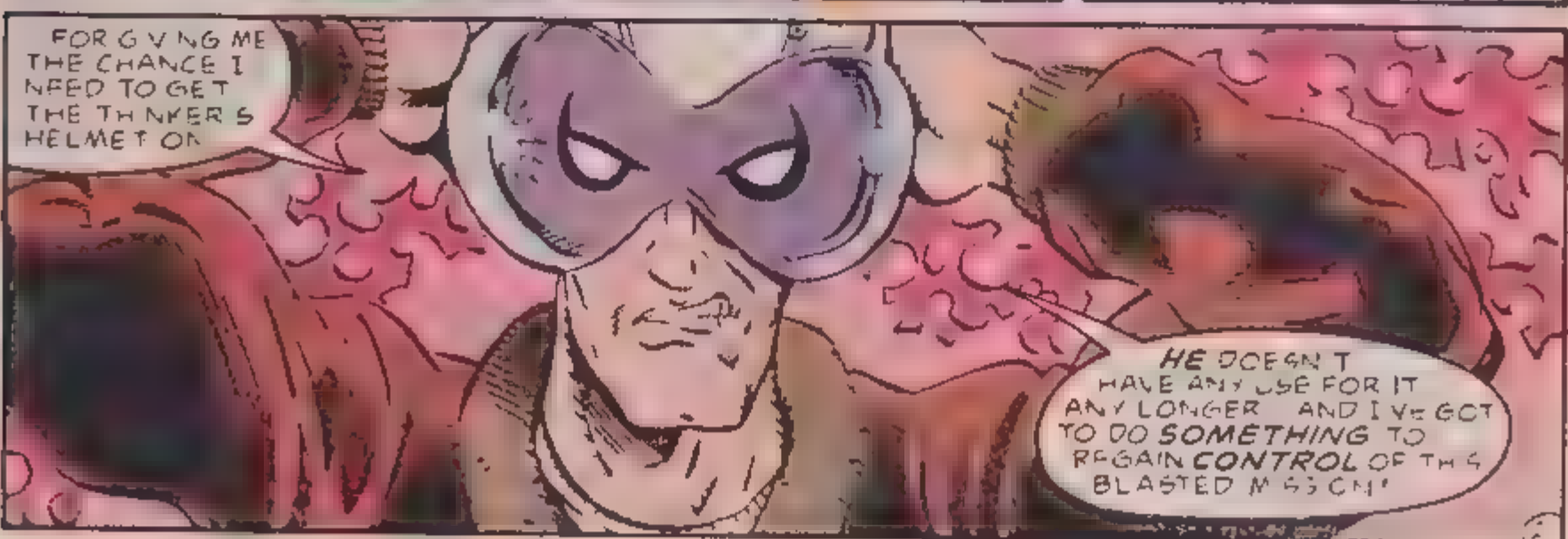
--ROBOTMAN!

PLANNING



CLIFFORD!
WHAT--?

I OWE YOUR
TEAMMATE MY
THANKS,
CLIFFORD



FOR GIVING ME
THE CHANCE I
NEED TO GET
THE THINKER'S
HELMET ON

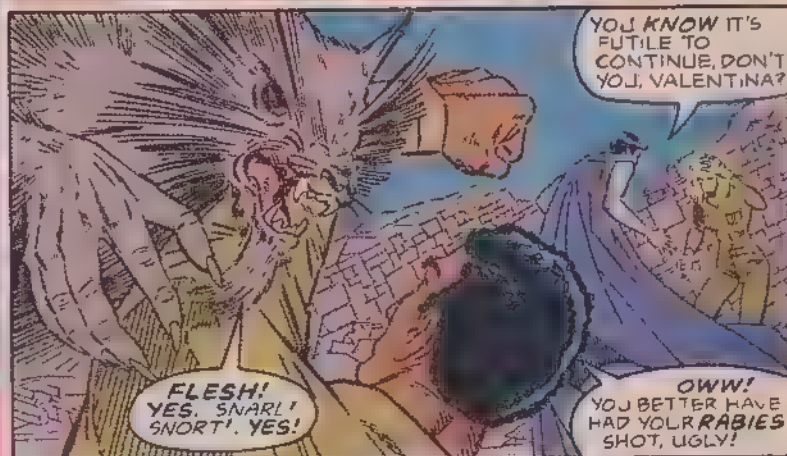
HE DOESN'T
HAVE ANY USE FOR IT
ANY LONGER AND I'VE GOT
TO DO SOMETHING TO
REGAIN CONTROL OF THE
BLASTED MESS CH



ALL RIGHT,
EVERYBODY--
FREEZE! RIGHT
THIS INSTANT!
I COMMAND
YOU TO..



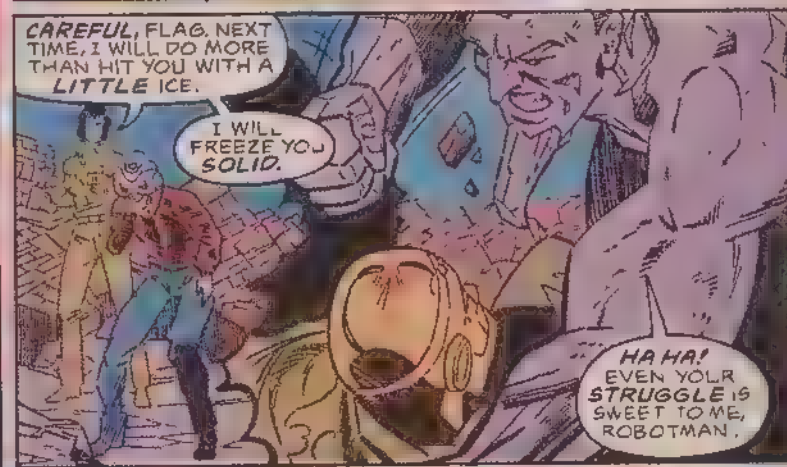
...FREEEEUHKKK!



FLESH!
YES. SNARL!
SNORT! YES!

YOU KNOW IT'S
FUTILE TO
CONTINUE, DON'T
YOU, VALENTINA?

OWW!
YOU BETTER HAVE
HAD YOUR RABIES
SHOT, UGLY!



CAREFUL, FLAG. NEXT
TIME, I WILL DO MORE
THAN HIT YOU WITH A
LITTLE ICE.

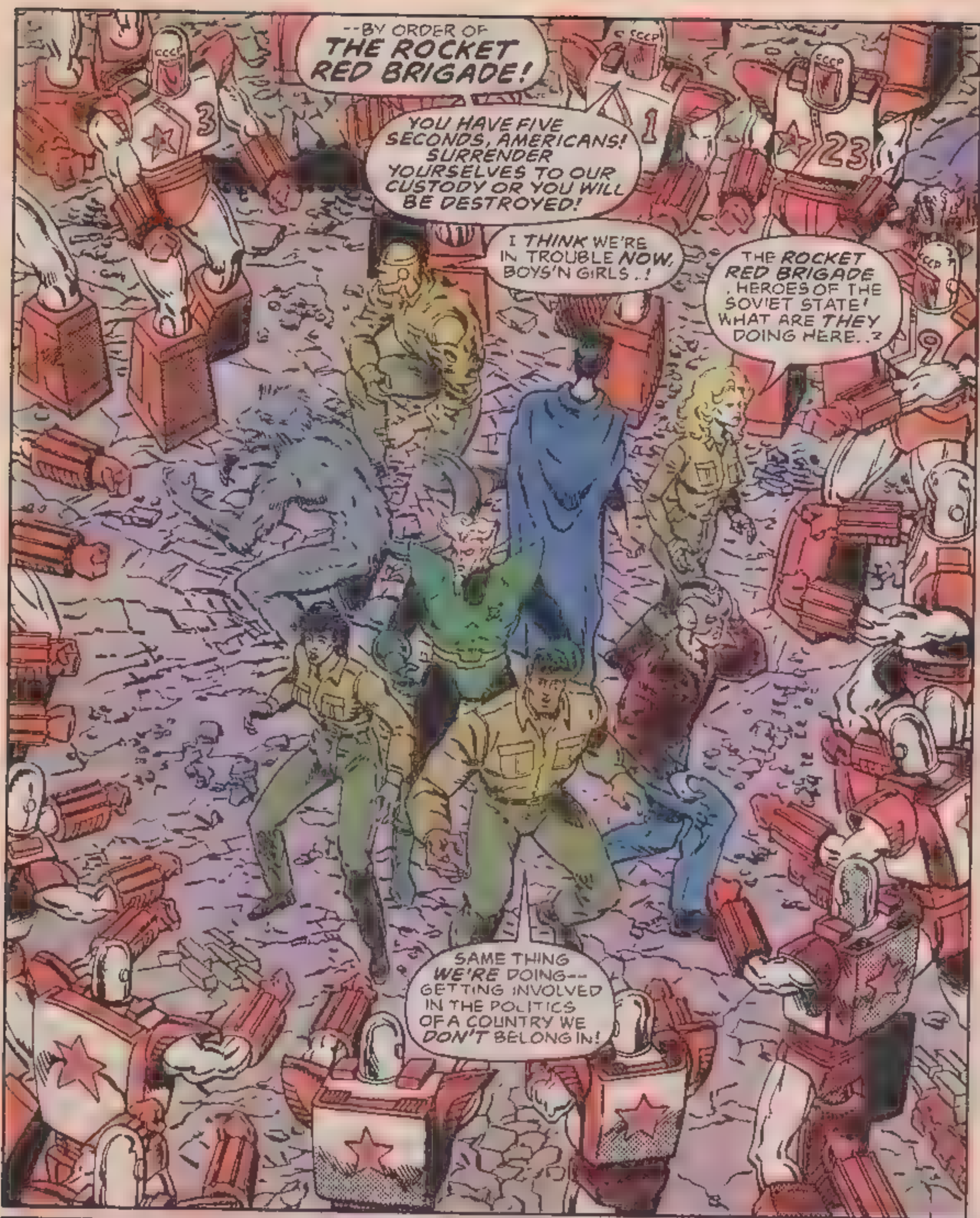
I WILL
FREEZE YOU
SOLID.

HA HA!
EVEN YOUR
STRUGGLE IS
SWEET TO ME,
ROBOTMAN.



ATTENTION!
THESE HOST LIT.ES
WLL CEASE
IMMEDIATELY--

HUH--?!



--BY ORDER OF
**THE ROCKET
RED BRIGADE!**

YOU HAVE FIVE
SECONDS, AMERICANS!
SURRENDER
YOURSELVES TO OUR
CUSTODY OR YOU WILL
BE DESTROYED!

I THINK WE'RE
IN TROUBLE NOW,
BOYS'N GIRLS..!

THE ROCKET
RED BRIGADE
, HEROES OF THE
SOVIET STATE!
WHAT ARE THEY
DOING HERE..?

SAME THING
WE'RE DOING---
GETTING INVOLVED
IN THE POLITICS
OF A COUNTRY WE
DON'T BELONG IN!

BAH! RED MEN
ARE JUST FLESH
IN CANS!
HAH HA HA!
SO SHUT UP
AND HELP
WEASEL
OPEN THEM,
DARK MEAT!

FOR ONCE, I GOTTA AGREE WITH FIDO, Y--BUT THESE
JOSHUA! POLITICS DON'T COUNT FOR
DOODLY RIGHT NOW, MAN--

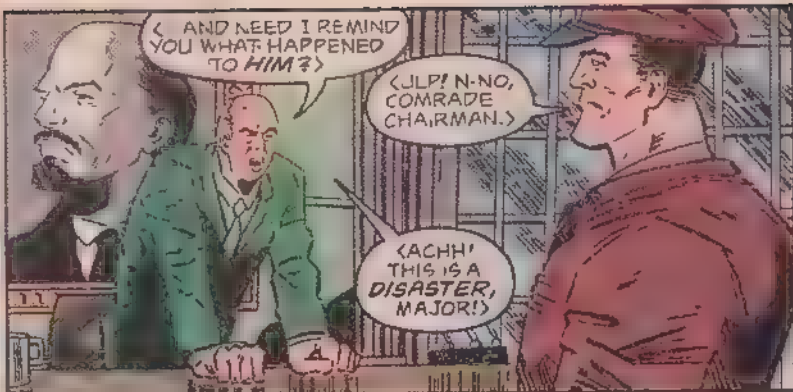
DUDES MEAN
BUSINESS!

WE AWAIT YOUR
ANSWER! YOU HAVE
FIVE SECONDS--!

THE KREMLIN THE RUSSIAN SOVIET FEDERATED SOCIALIST REPUBLIC. 11 01 AM

< AT AT ONCE COMRADE PREMIER! I SHALL SEE WHAT I CAN FIND OUT ABOUT THIS DEBACLE AND. >

< TRY, MAJOR? DEFENSE MINISTER SOKOLOV TRIED TO DO HIS JOB-- >

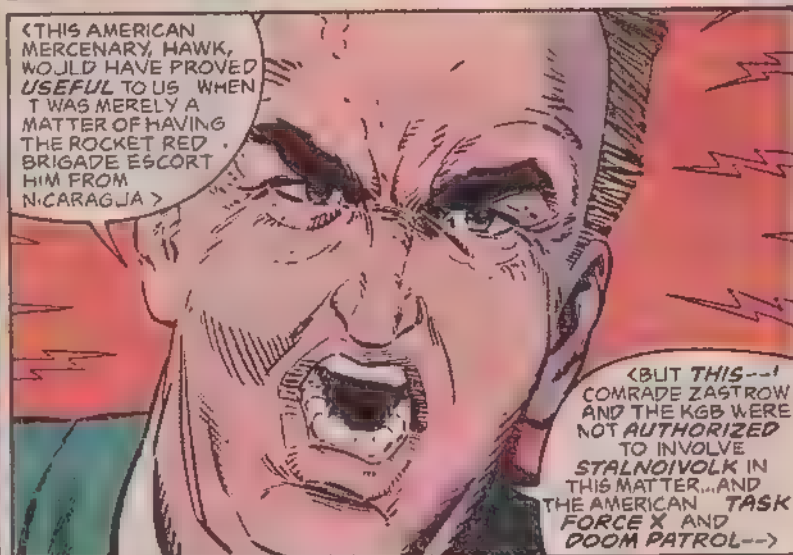


< AND NEED I REMIND YOU WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM? >

< JLP! N-NO, COMRADE CHAIRMAN. >

< ACHH! THIS IS A DISASTER, MAJOR! >

< THIS AMERICAN MERCENARY, HAWK, WOULD HAVE PROVED USEFUL TO US WHEN I WAS MERELY A MATTER OF HAVING THE ROCKET RED BRIGADE ESCORT HIM FROM NICARAGUA >



< BUT THIS--! COMRADE ZASTROW AND THE KGB WERE NOT AUTHORIZED TO INVOLVE STALNOIVOLK IN THIS MATTER...AND THE AMERICAN TASK FORCE X AND DOOM PATROL-- >

<--THE POTENTIAL FOR CHAOS IS LIMITLESS AND THE TIMING FOR SUCH A THING AL WRONG! RECALL OUR PEOPLE...AND INFORM COMRADE ZASTROW I WISH TO SEE HIM! >

< I...YES, COMRADE CHAIRMAN! >



< ARE YOU UNWELL, COMRADE MAJOR? >

< I DO NOT KNOW YET. CURSE ZASTROW AND HIS INDEPENDENCE! THE CHAIRMAN WANTS TO SEE HIM >



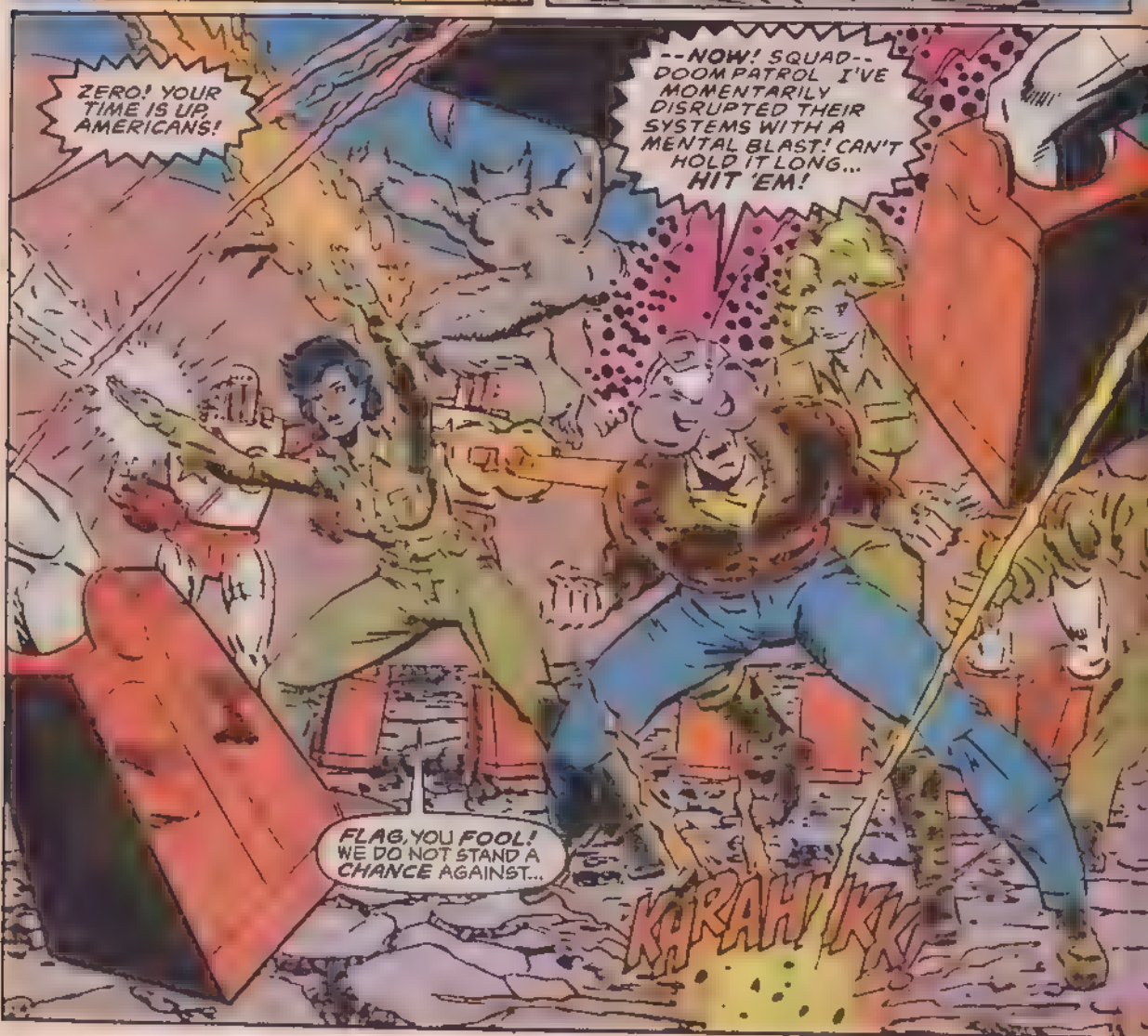
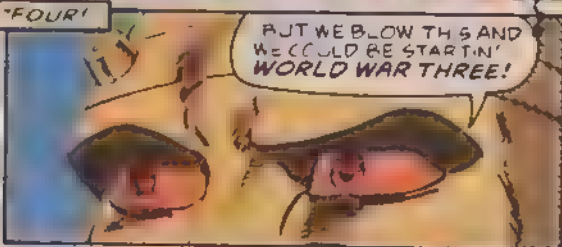
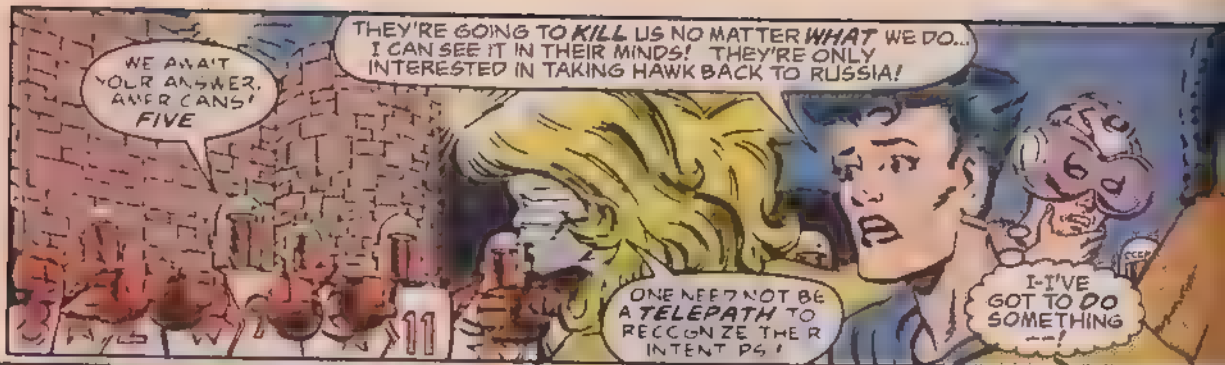
< BUT...COMRADE ZASTROW WENT TO NICARAGUA...! >

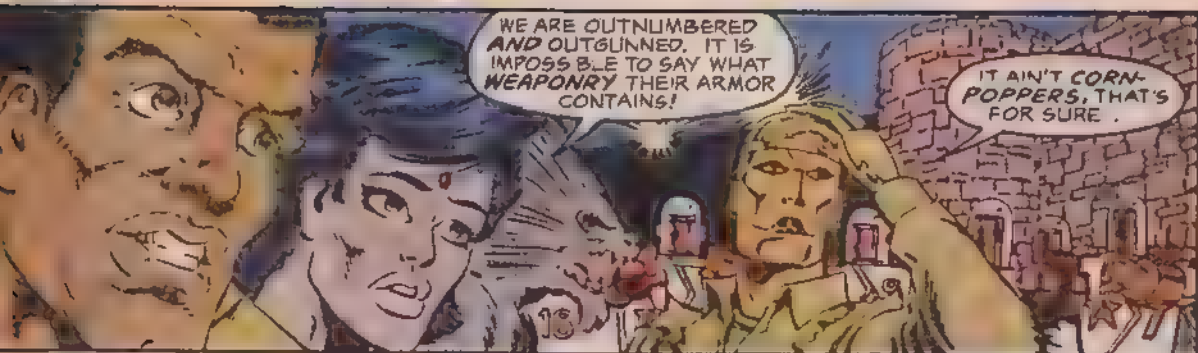
< WITHOUT ORDERS >

< AGAINST PARTY POLICY. >



< LEAVING ME TO SHOULDER THE BURDEN OF BLAME..! >





WE ARE OUTNUMBERED
AND OUTGUNNED. IT IS
IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY WHAT
WEAPONRY THEIR ARMOR
CONTAINS!

IT AIN'T CORN-
POPPERS, THAT'S
FOR SURE.



"TWO!"

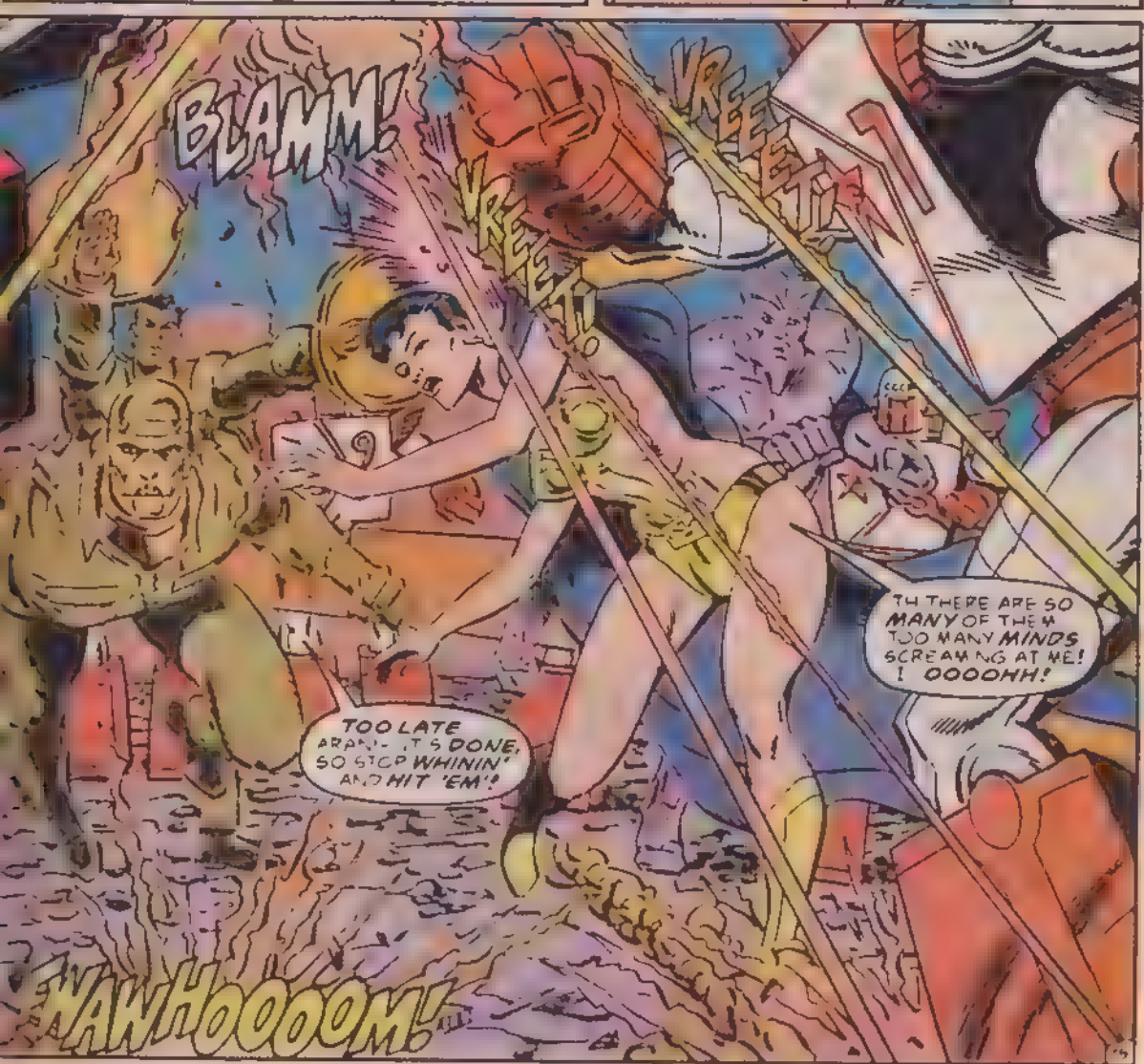
ARE YOU IN
SUCH A HURRY
TO DIE WEASEL?



"ONE!"

THINKER'S
HELMET

HAVE TO
USE THE
BLASTED
HELMET--



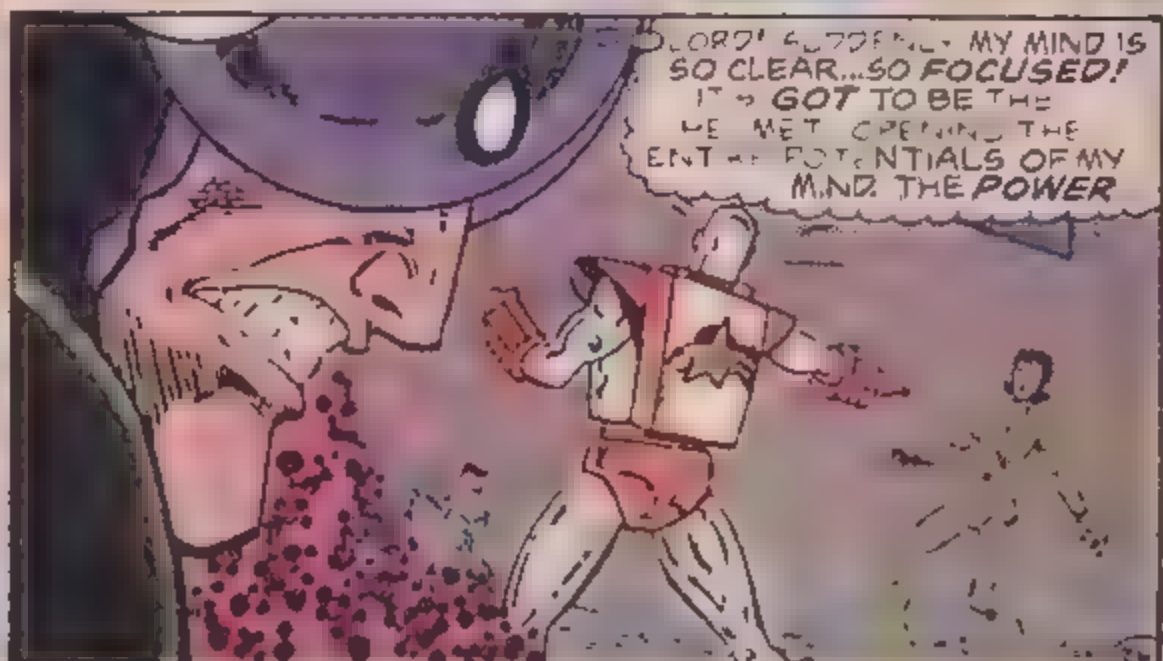
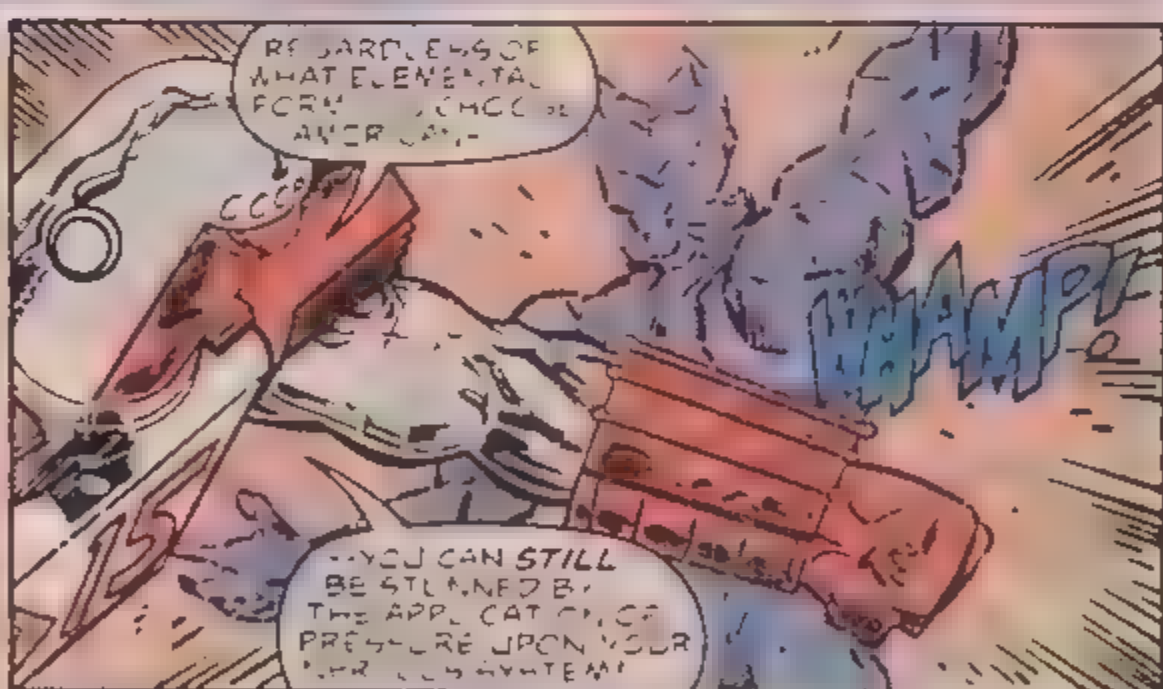
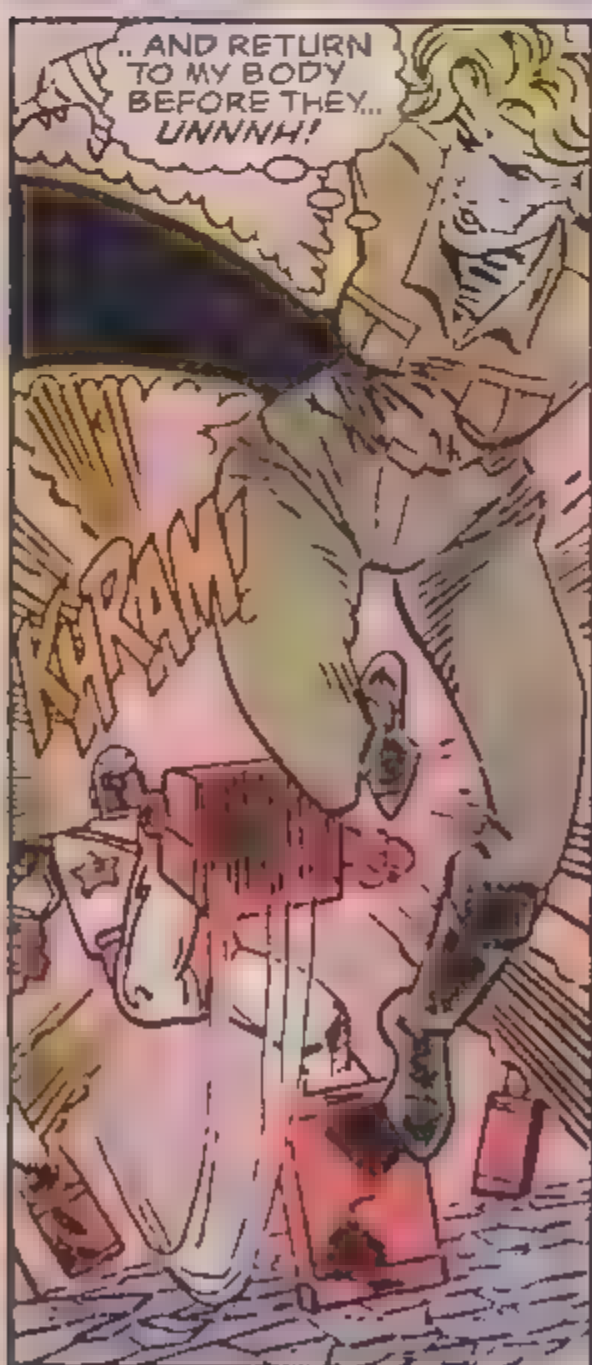
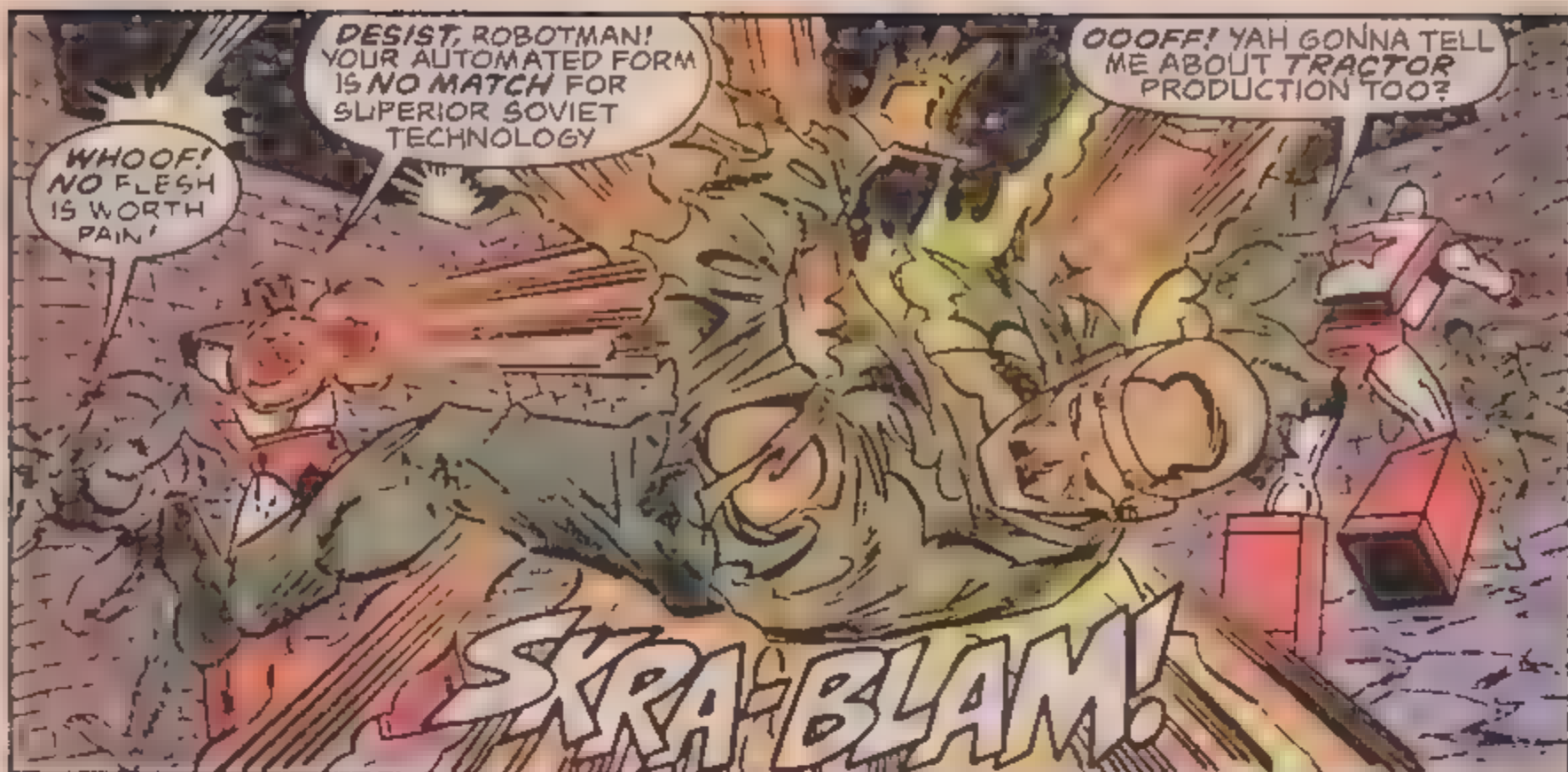
BLAMM!

VREEET!

TH THERE ARE SO
MANY OF THEM
TOO MANY MINDS
SCREAMING AT ME!
I OOOOHH!

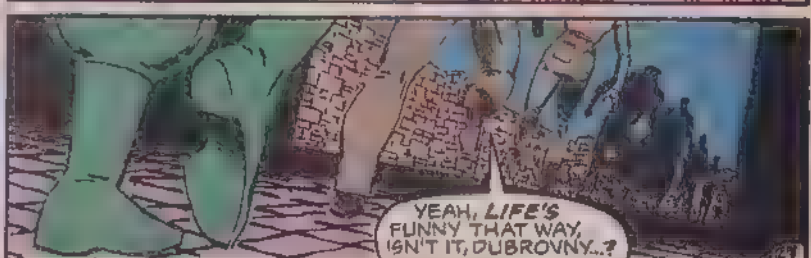
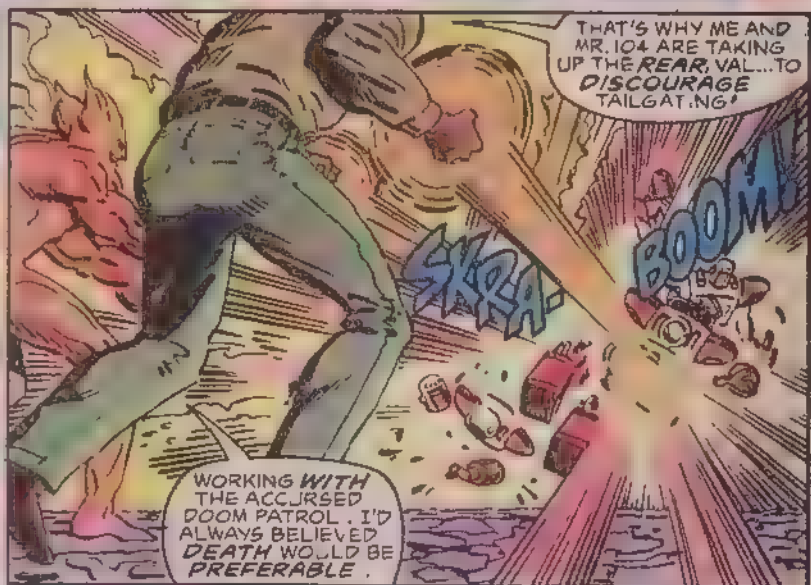
TOO LATE
ARMY-- IT'S DONE,
SO STOP WHININ'
AND HIT 'EM!

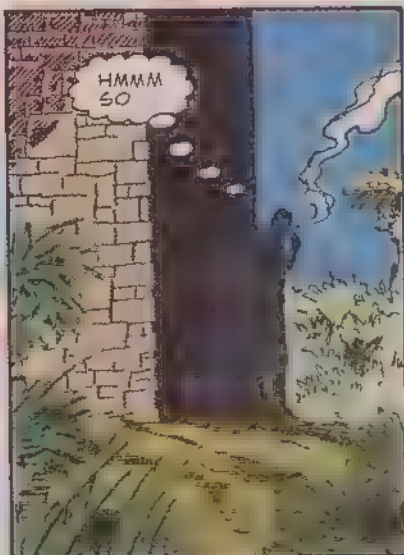
WAWHOOOON!

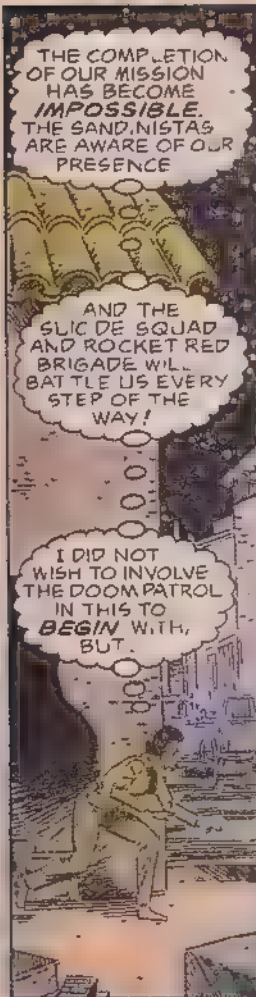




ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY-- LISTEN UP! WE DON'T STAND A SNOWBALL'S CHANCE AGAINST THE ROCKET REDS AS THINGS STAND! WE'VE GOT TO RETREAT, MAKE COORDINATED PLANS!







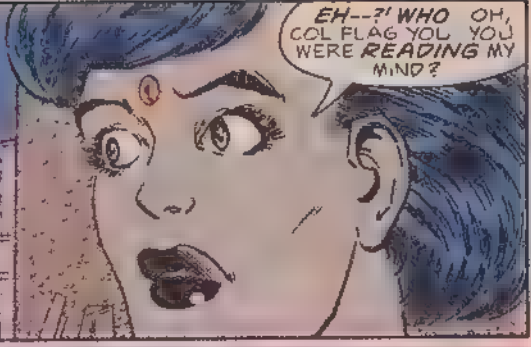
THE COMPLETION OF OUR MISSION HAS BECOME **IMPOSSIBLE**. THE SANDINISTAS ARE AWARE OF OUR PRESENCE

AND THE SLIC DE SQUAD AND ROCKET RED BRIGADE WILL BATTLE US EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

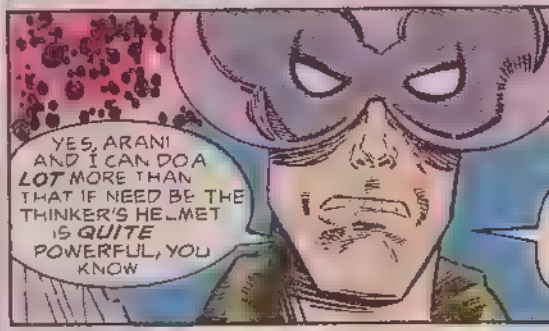
I DID NOT WISH TO INVOLVE THE DOOM PATROL IN THIS TO **BEGIN WITH**, BUT...



BUT YOU WERE TRICKED INTO IT BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT!



EH---? WHO OH, COL FLAG YOU WERE **READING MY MIND?**



YES, ARANI AND I CAN DO A LOT MORE THAN THAT IF NEED BE THE THINKER'S HELMET IS **QUITE POWERFUL**, YOU KNOW

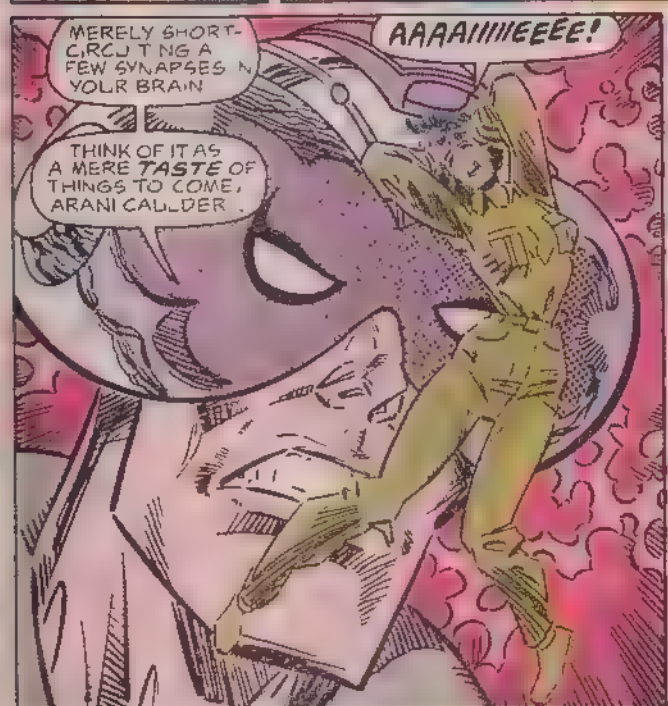
AS I WAS SAYING, SOMEBODY IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY IS **USING YOU**, WHICH IS REALLY QUITE **UNFORTUNATE--**

--BECAUSE THIS WAS **SUPPOSED TO BE THE SQUAD'S MISSION** AND I DON'T **LIKE** BEING DOUBLE-TEAMED BY SOME BUREAUCRATIC DRONE!



HOWEVER I **CAN'T REACH THEM**, SO I'LL HAVE TO TAKE IT OUT ON YOU...

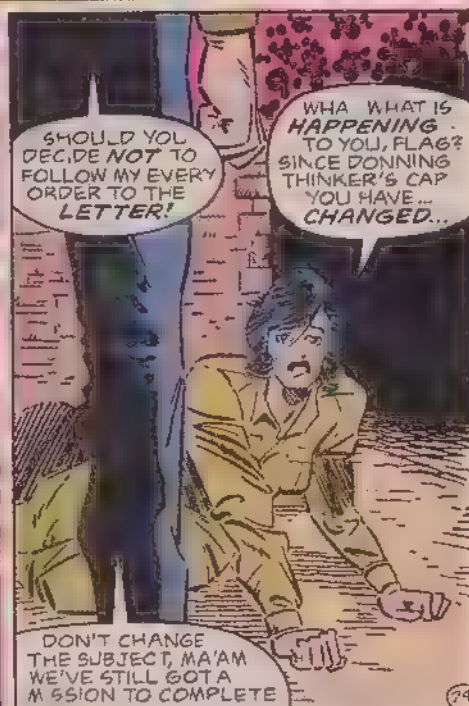
UHHH UHHH MY MY HEAD... WH-WHAT ARE YOU **DOING**?



MERELY SHORT-CIRCUITING A FEW SYNAPSES IN YOUR BRAIN

THINK OF IT AS A MERE **TASTE** OF THINGS TO COME, ARANI CALDER

AAAAAIIIIIEEEEE!



SHOULD YOU DECIDE **NOT TO FOLLOW MY EVERY ORDER TO THE LETTER!**

WHA WHAT IS **HAPPENING** TO YOU, FLAG? SINCE DONNING THINKER'S CAP YOU HAVE... **CHANGED...**

DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT, MA'AM WE'VE STILL GOT A **MISSION TO COMPLETE**



THAT IS MADNESS!
OUR ONLY HOPE FOR
SURVIVAL IS TO
ABANDON OUR
OUR... OHHH...



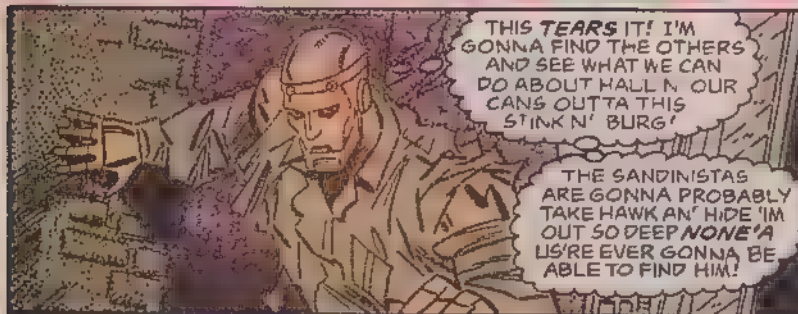
UNACCEPTABLE! MY
ORDERS COME DIRECTLY
FROM THE PRESIDENT!

SO IF YOU WON'T
COOPERATE
VOLUNTARILY--



--I'LL JUST HAVE TO
TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR
ENTIRE BODY!

NOW
COME ALONG,
MRS CAULDER
WE HAVE A
JOB TO DO...

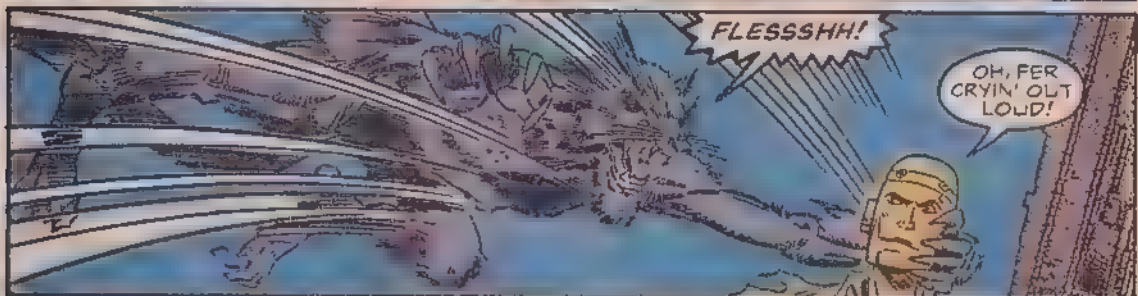


THIS TEARS IT! I'M
GONNA FIND THE OTHERS
AND SEE WHAT WE CAN
DO ABOUT HALL N' OUR
CANS OUTTA THIS
STINK N' BURG!

THE SANDINISTAS
ARE GONNA PROBABLY
TAKE HAWK AN' HIDE 'IM
OUT SO DEEP NONE'A
US'RE EVER GONNA BE
ABLE TO FIND HIM!

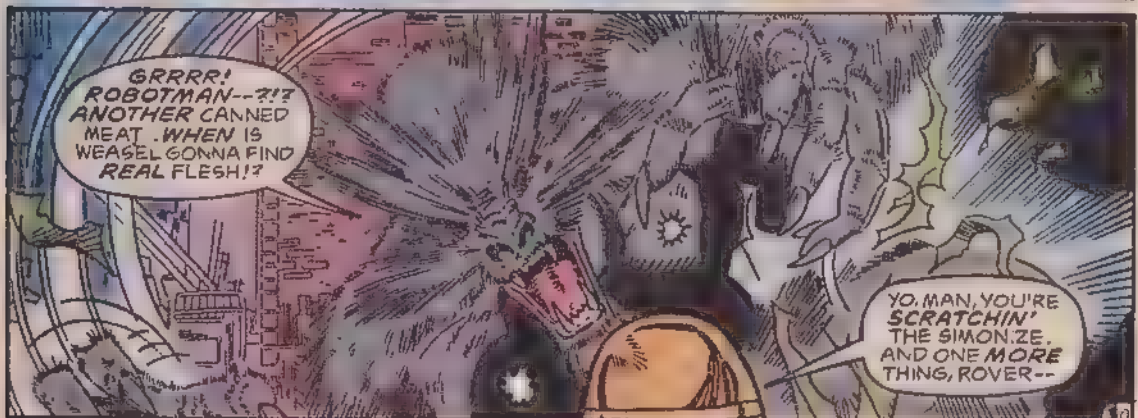


AAAAHHH!



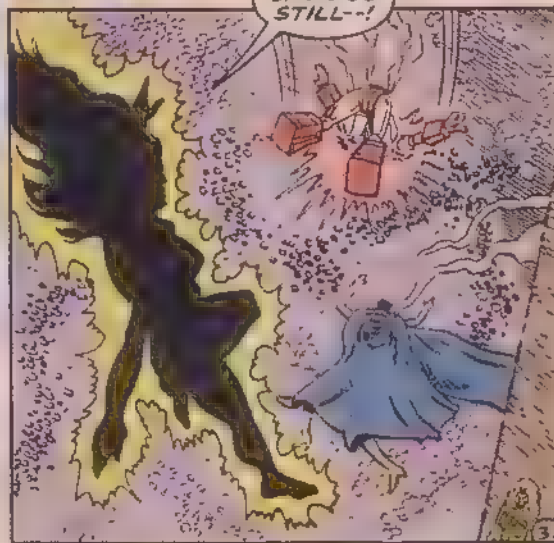
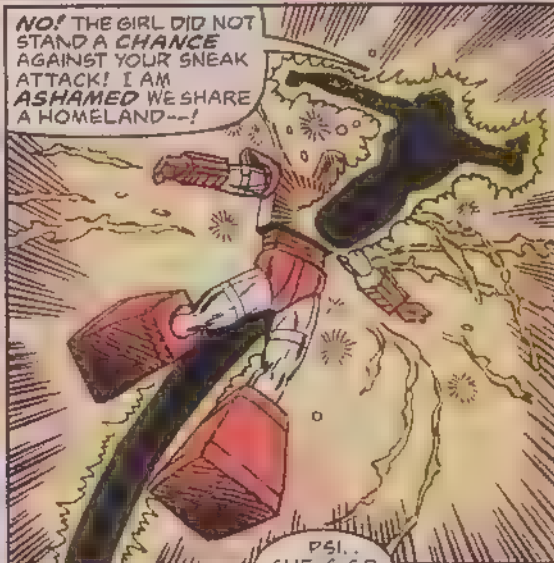
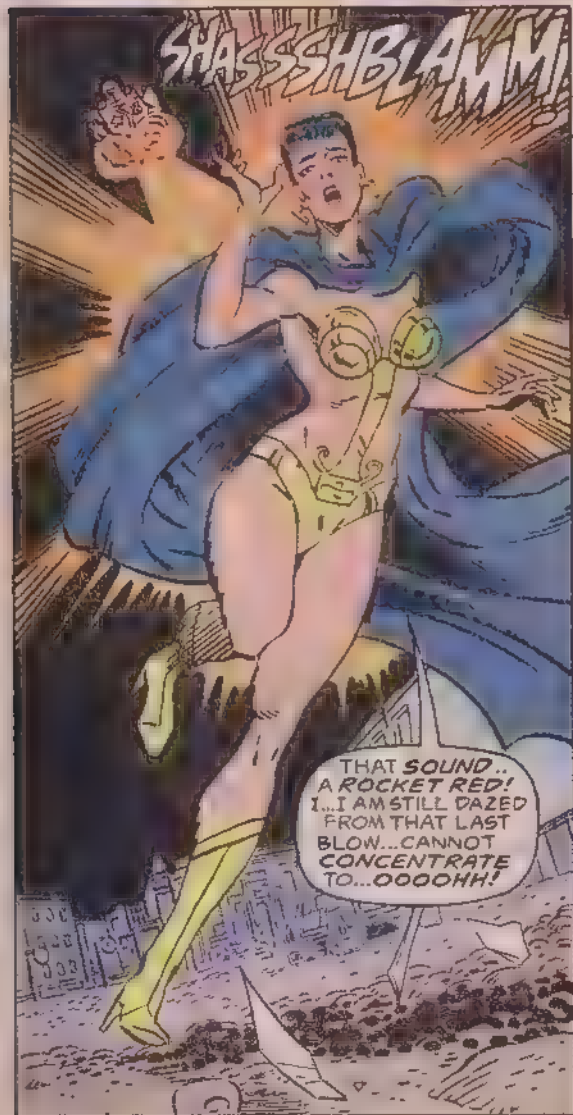
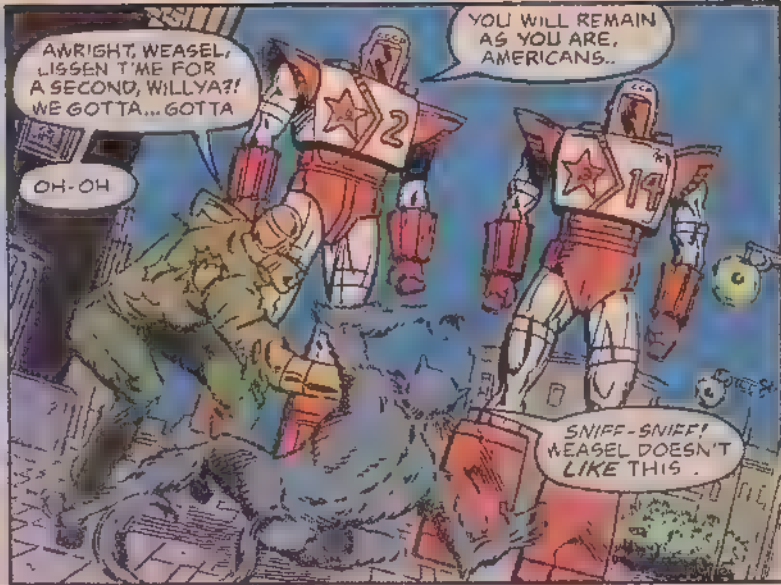
FLESSSH!

OH, FER
CRYIN' OLT
LOUD!



GRRRR!
ROBOTMAN--?!!
ANOTHER CANNED
MEAT. WHEN IS
WEASEL GONNA FIND
REAL FLESH!?

YO, MAN, YOU'RE
SCRATCHIN'
THE SIMON ZE.
AND ONE MORE
THING, ROVER--



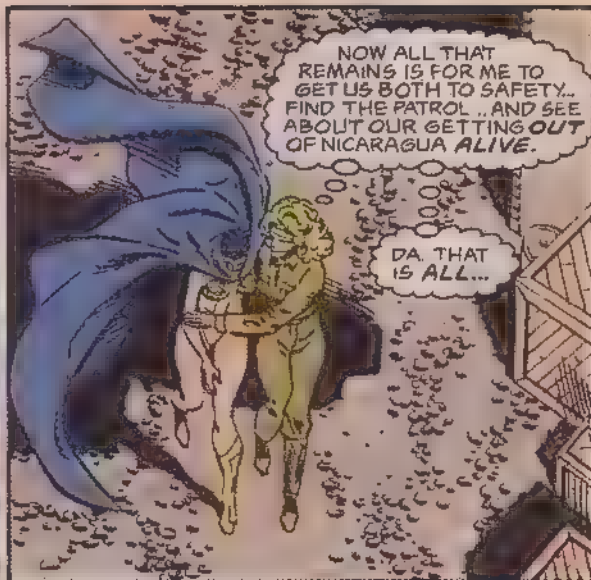


SHE TOOK THE FULL BRUNT OF THAT BLAST. SHE IS SUCH AN INNOCENT...



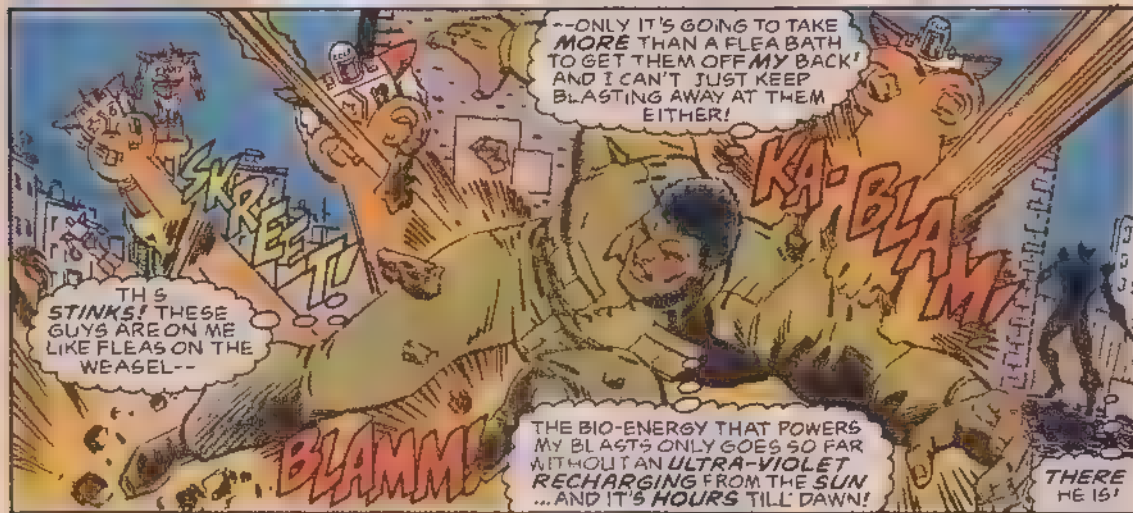
I CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHAT SHE IS DOING INVOLVED WITH THE VILLAINS OF COL FLAG'S SQUAD. WAIT. SHE IS STILL BREATHING!

THANK GOODNESS



NOW ALL THAT REMAINS IS FOR ME TO GET US BOTH TO SAFETY... FIND THE PATROL... AND SEE ABOUT OUR GETTING OUT OF NICARAGUA ALIVE.

DA. THAT IS ALL...



--ONLY IT'S GOING TO TAKE MORE THAN A FLEA BATH TO GET THEM OFF MY BACK! AND I CAN'T JUST KEEP BLASTING AWAY AT THEM EITHER!

THIS STINKS! THESE GUYS ARE ON ME LIKE FLEAS ON THE WEASEL--

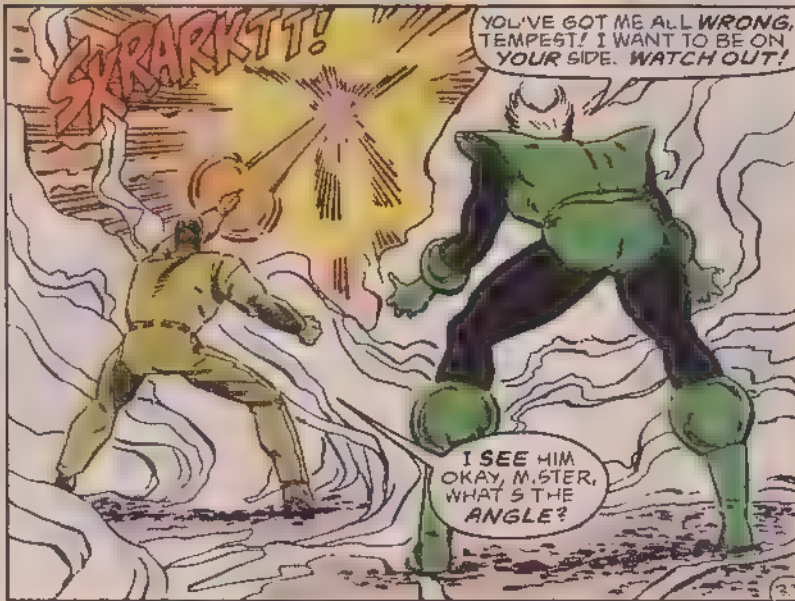
THE BIO-ENERGY THAT POWERS MY BLASTS ONLY GOES SO FAR WITHOUT AN ULTRA-VIOLET RECHARGING FROM THE SUN... AND IT'S HOURS TILL DAWN!

THERE HE IS!



BEHIND YOU, TEMPEST!

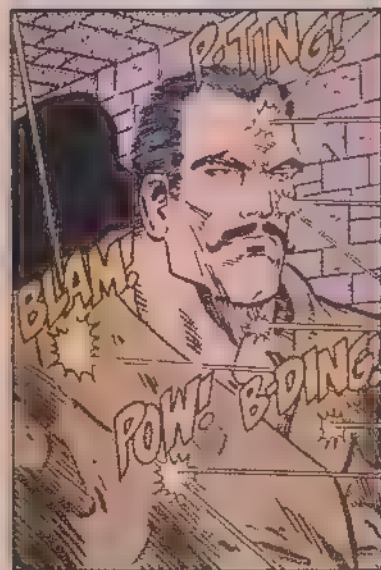
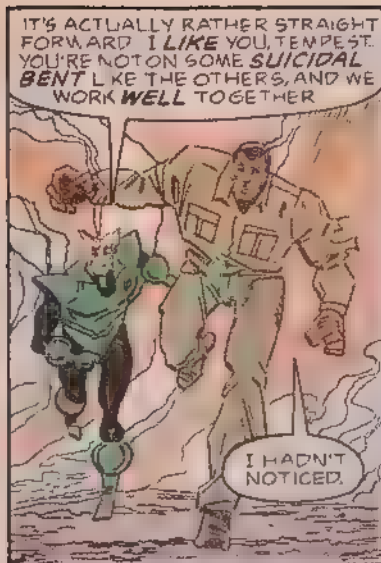
WHA...?! OH, CRUDE-- I'VE GOT TO DEAL WITH YOU TOO, DUBROVNYZ!

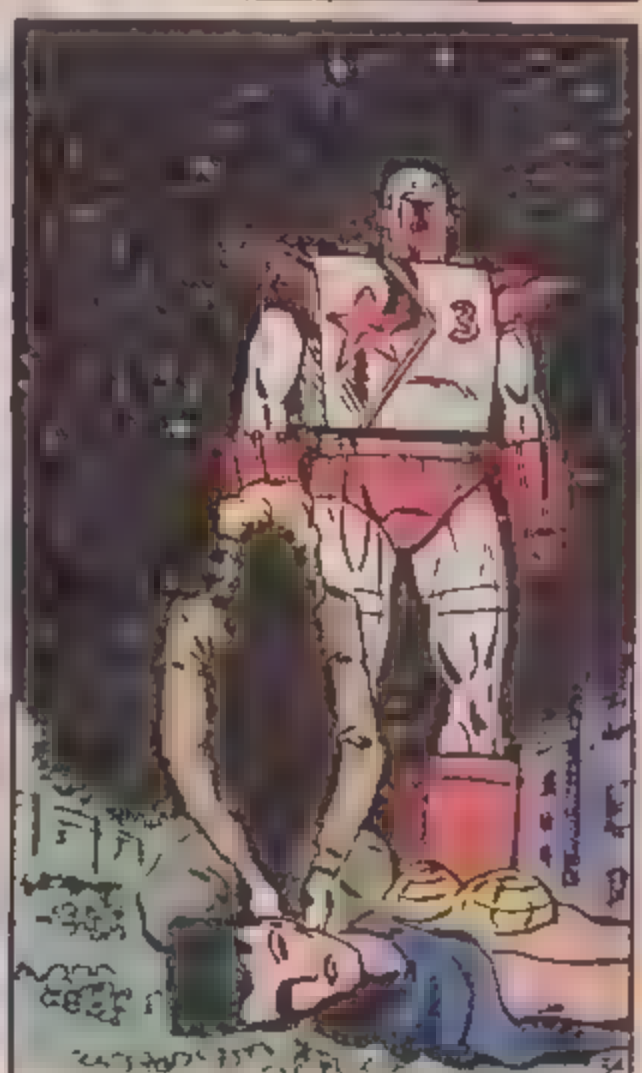
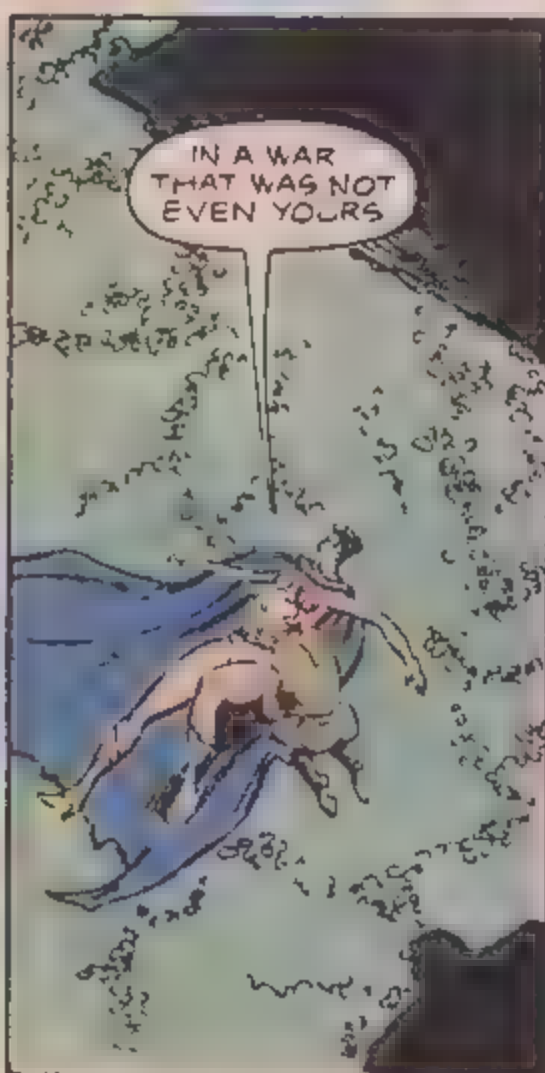


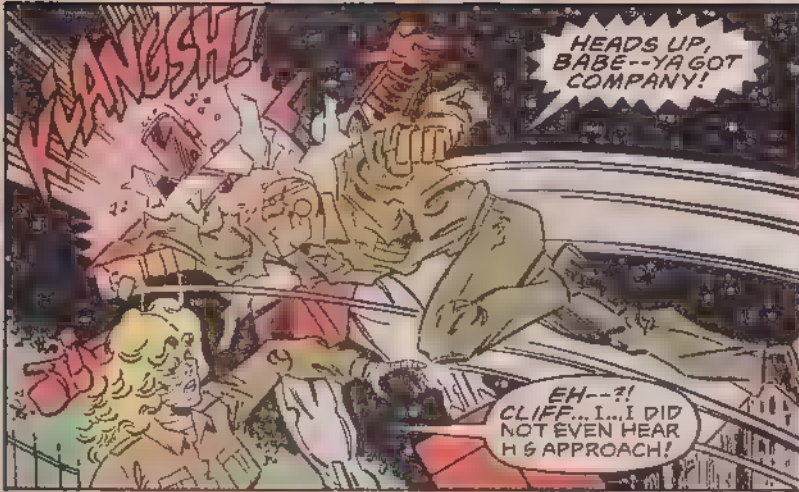
SKRARKTT!

YOU'VE GOT ME ALL WRONG, TEMPEST! I WANT TO BE ON YOUR SIDE. WATCH OUT!

I SEE HIM, OKAY, MISTER, WHAT'S THE ANGLE?





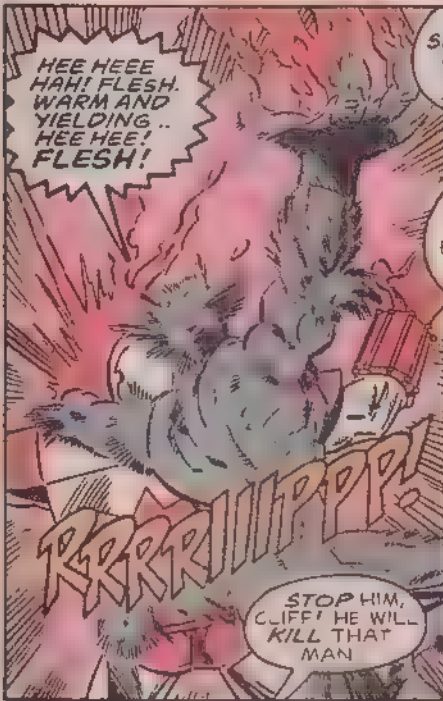


HEADS UP, BABE--YA GOT COMPANY!

EH--?!
CLIFF...I...I DID NOT EVEN HEAR H'S APPROACH!



AAAAH, AT LAST-- FLESH!

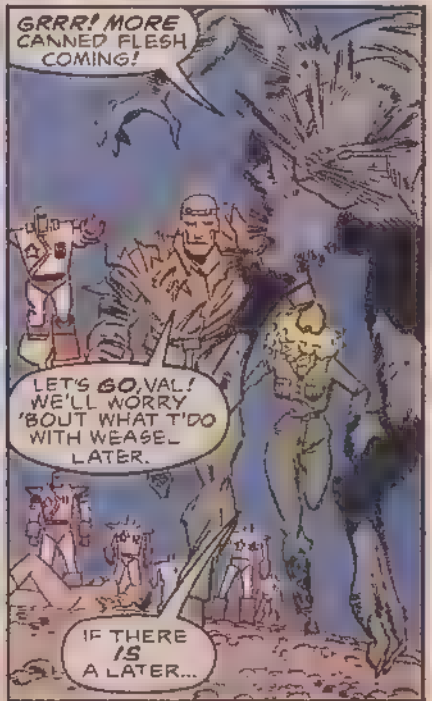
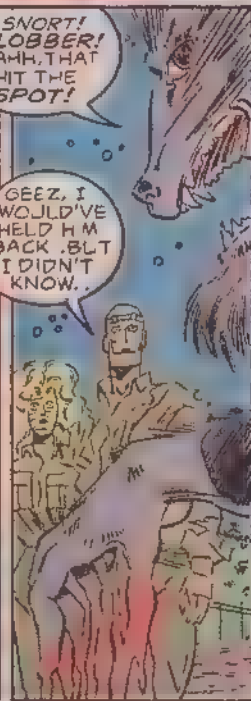


HEE HEE HAH! FLESH. WARM AND YIELDING... HEE HEE! FLESH!

SNORT! SLOBBER! AMH, THAT HIT THE SPOT!

GEEZ, I WOULD'VE HELD H'M BACK .BUT I DIDN'T KNOW..

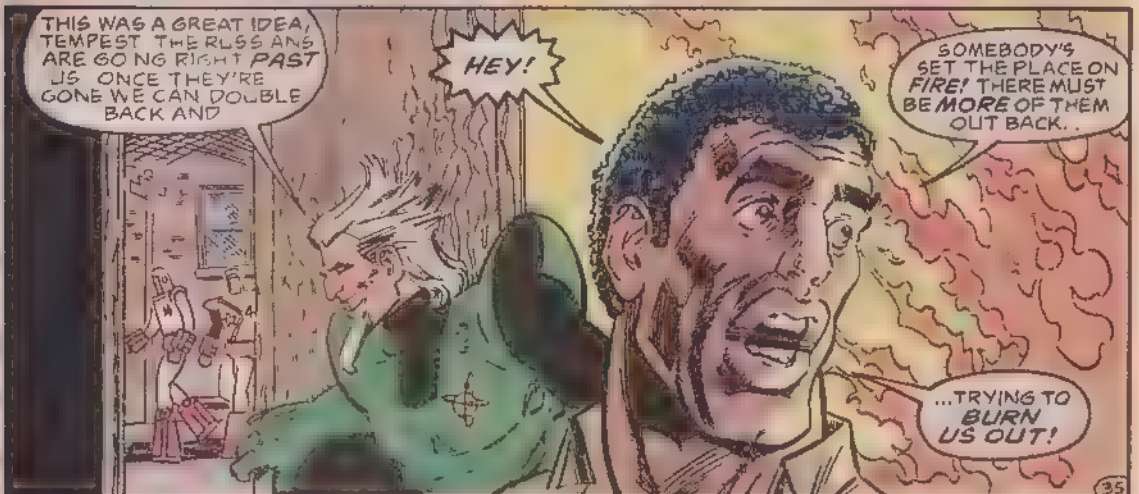
STOP HIM, CLIFF! HE WILL KILL THAT MAN



GRRR! MORE CANNED FLESH COMING!

LET'S GO, VAL! WE'LL WORRY 'BOUT WHAT T'DO WITH WEASEL LATER.

IF THERE IS A LATER...

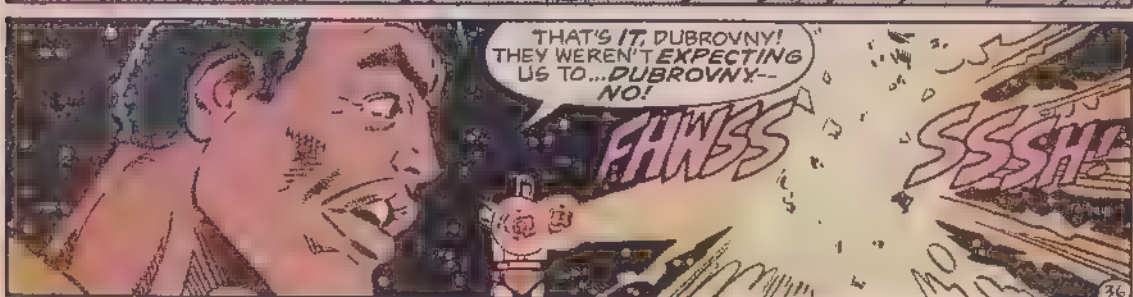
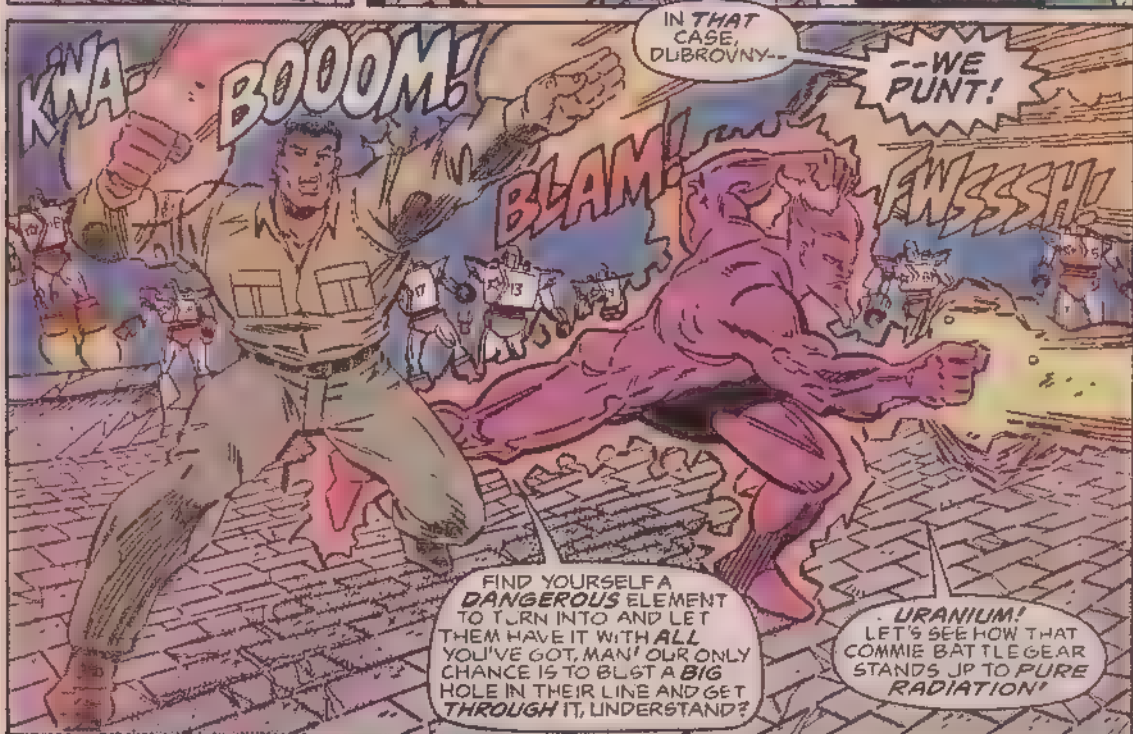
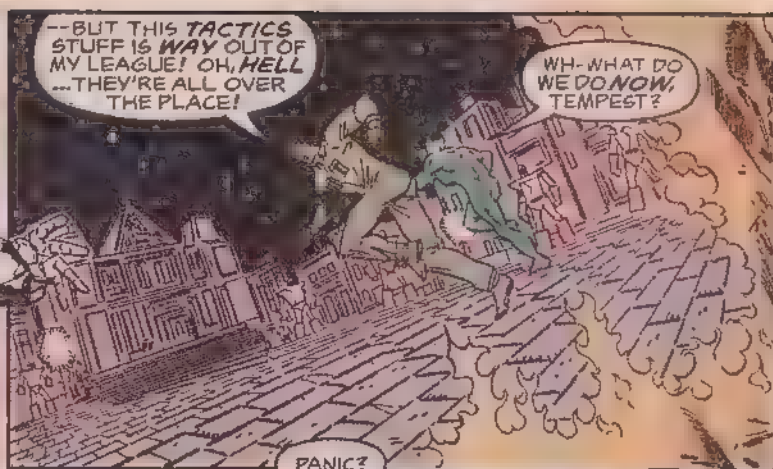
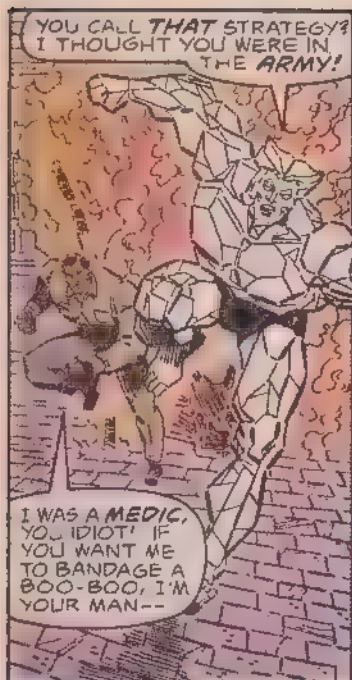


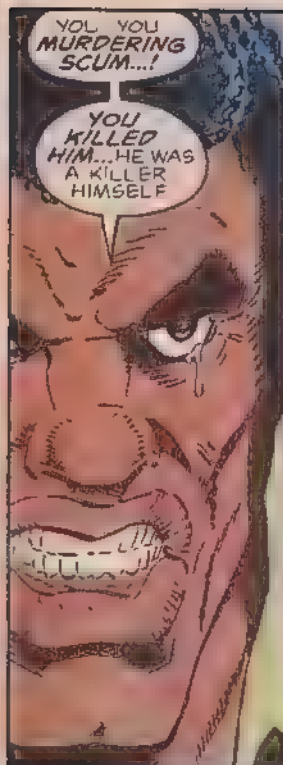
THIS WAS A GREAT IDEA, TEMPEST THE RUSSANS ARE GOING RIGHT PAST US ONCE THEY'RE GONE WE CAN DOUBLE BACK AND

HEY!

SOMEBODY'S SET THE PLACE ON FIRE! THERE MUST BE MORE OF THEM OUT BACK..

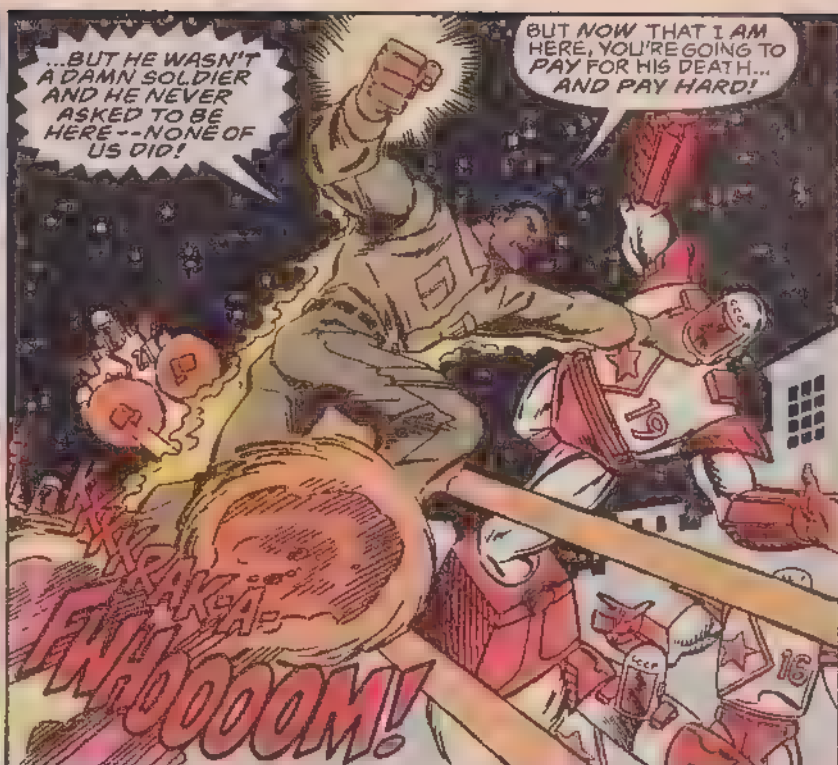
...TRYING TO BURN US OUT!





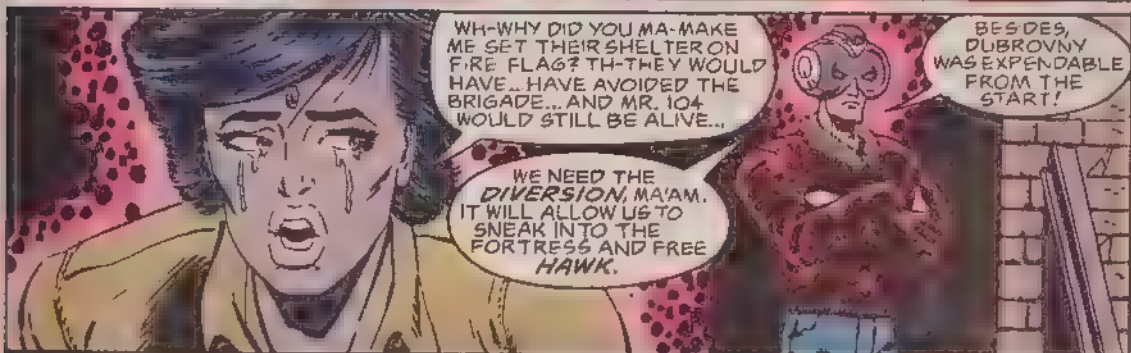
YOU MURDERING SCUM...!

YOU KILLED HIM...HE WAS A KILLER HIMSELF



...BUT HE WASN'T A DAMN SOLDIER AND HE NEVER ASKED TO BE HERE--NONE OF US DID!

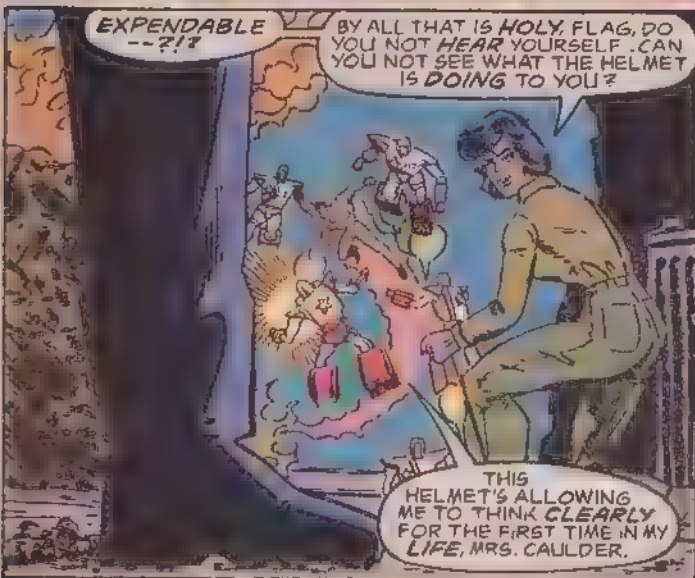
BUT NOW THAT I AM HERE, YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR HIS DEATH... AND PAY HARD!



WH-WHY DID YOU MA-MAKE ME SET THEIR SHELTER ON FIRE FLAG? TH-THEY WOULD HAVE...HAVE AVOIDED THE BRIGADE...AND MR. 104 WOULD STILL BE ALIVE...

WE NEED THE DIVERSION, MA'AM. IT WILL ALLOW US TO SNEAK INTO THE FORTRESS AND FREE HAWK.

BESIDES, DUBROVNY WAS EXPENDABLE FROM THE START!



EXPENDABLE --?!

BY ALL THAT IS HOLY, FLAG, DO YOU NOT HEAR YOURSELF. CAN YOU NOT SEE WHAT THE HELMET IS DOING TO YOU?

THIS HELMET'S ALLOWING ME TO THINK CLEARLY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, MRS. CAULDER.



IN FACT, WHEN WE'RE FINISHED HERE, I'LL BE KEEPING IT. THERE'S SO MUCH MORE I CAN DO WITH IT

NOW, MA'AM OUR MISSION...?

OKAY, SO MAYBE
HELPING TO RUN SOME
GUNS TO THE CONTRAS
WASN'T THE BRIGHTEST
IDEA I EVER HAD. MAYBE
DAD WAS RIGHT AND I
SHOULD GO BACK TO
SCHOOL. HUH? WHAT'S
THAT?

I COULD'VE
SWORN
I HEARD
SOMETHING
IN THE...

KHRAMM!

UHHHH

HI. CAN I
LIKE HELP YOU,
OR SOMETHING?

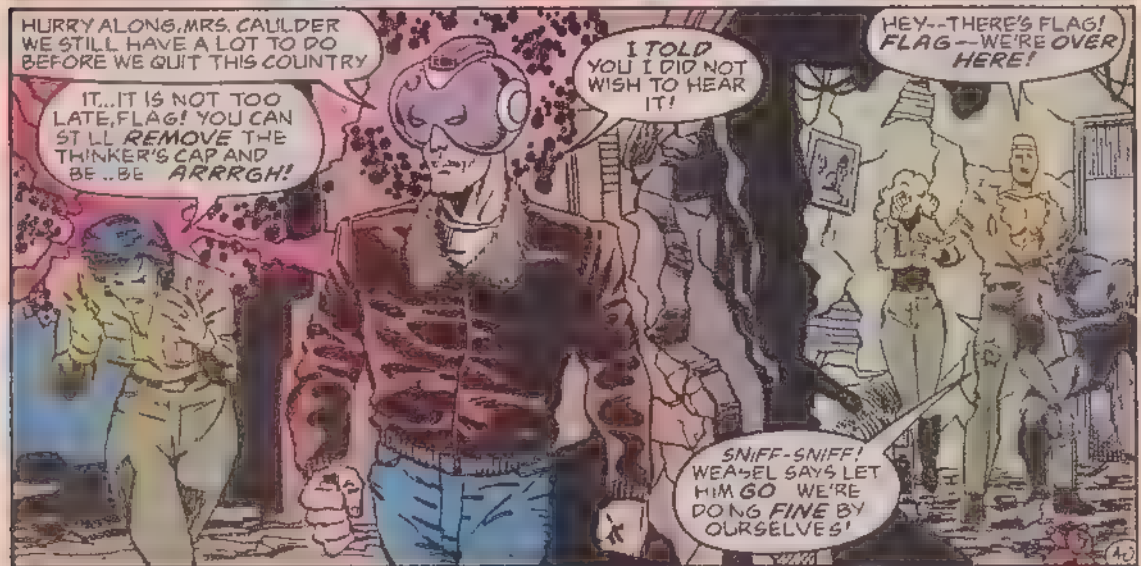
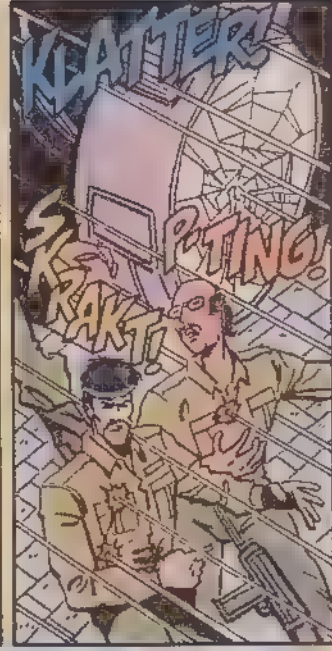
HELLO
ANYBODY
IN THERE?

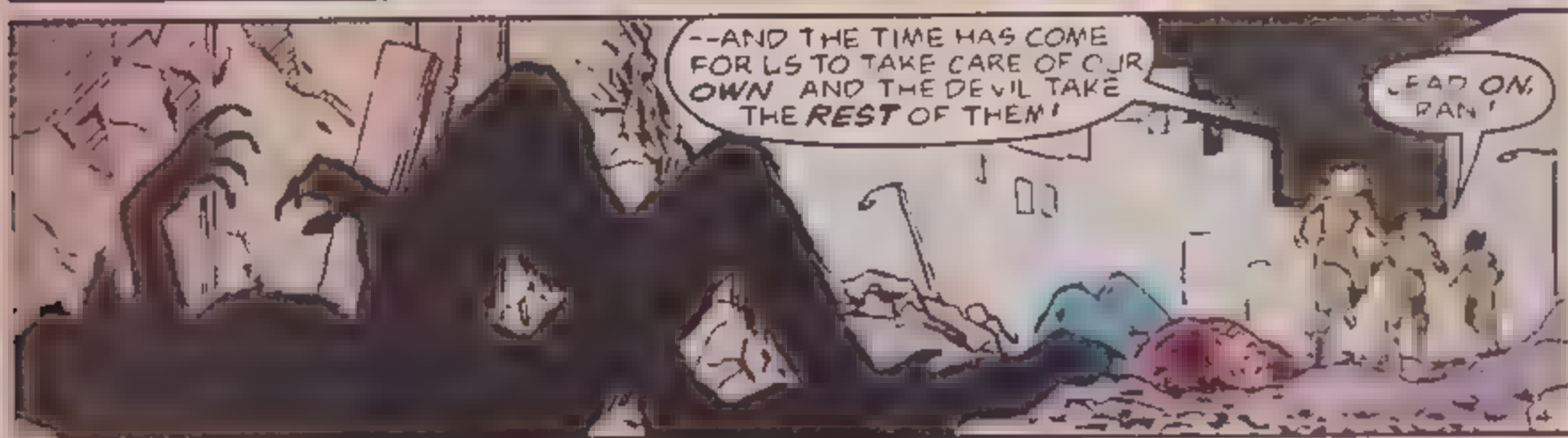
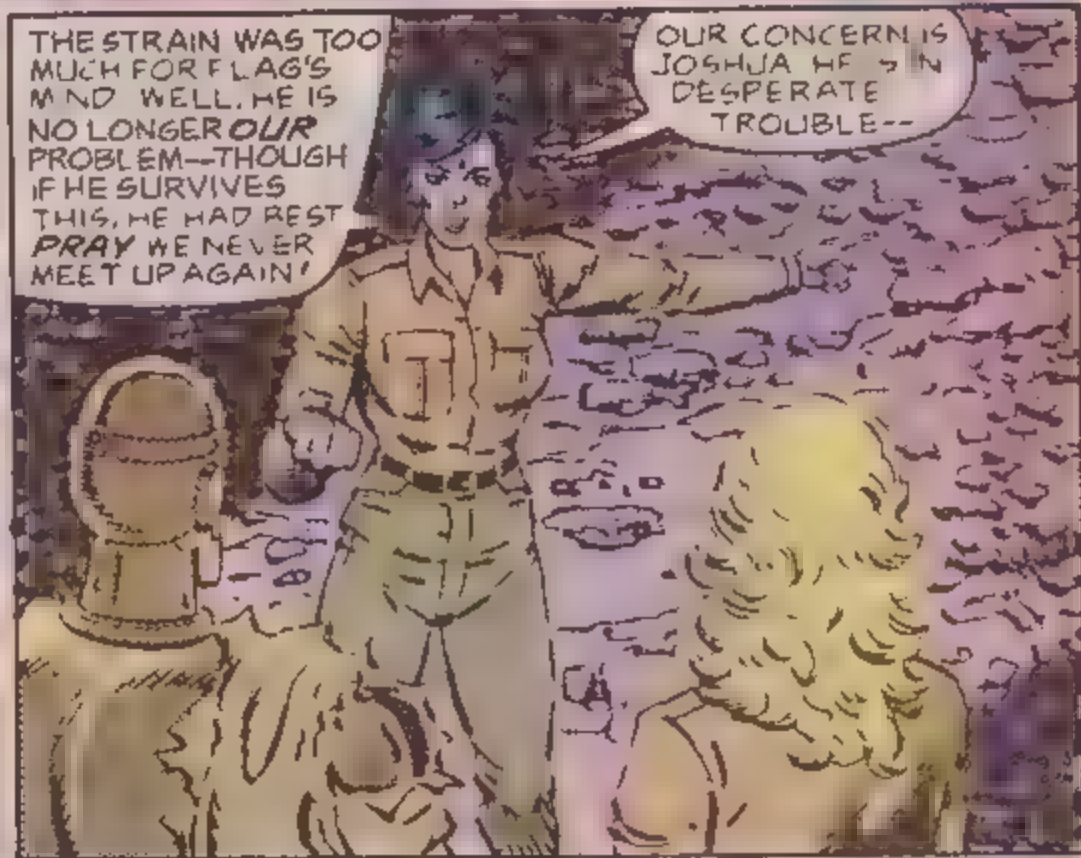
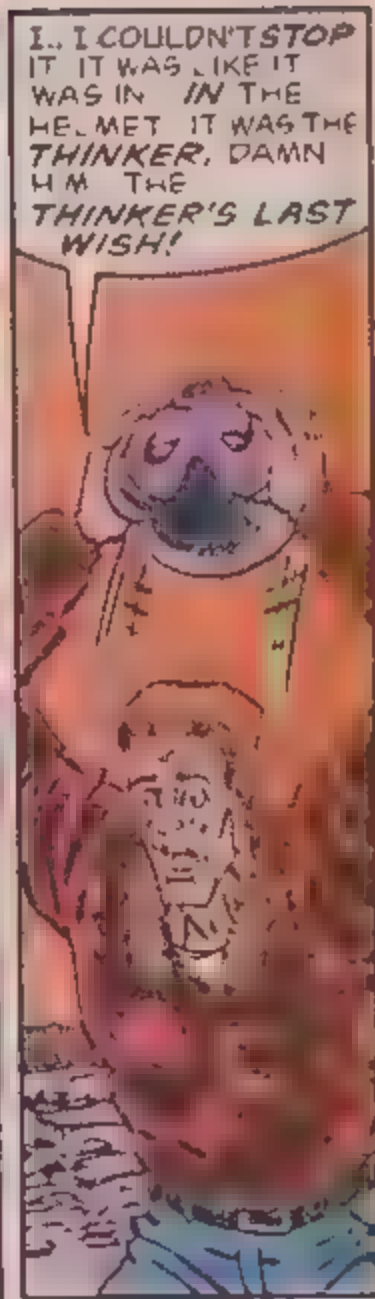
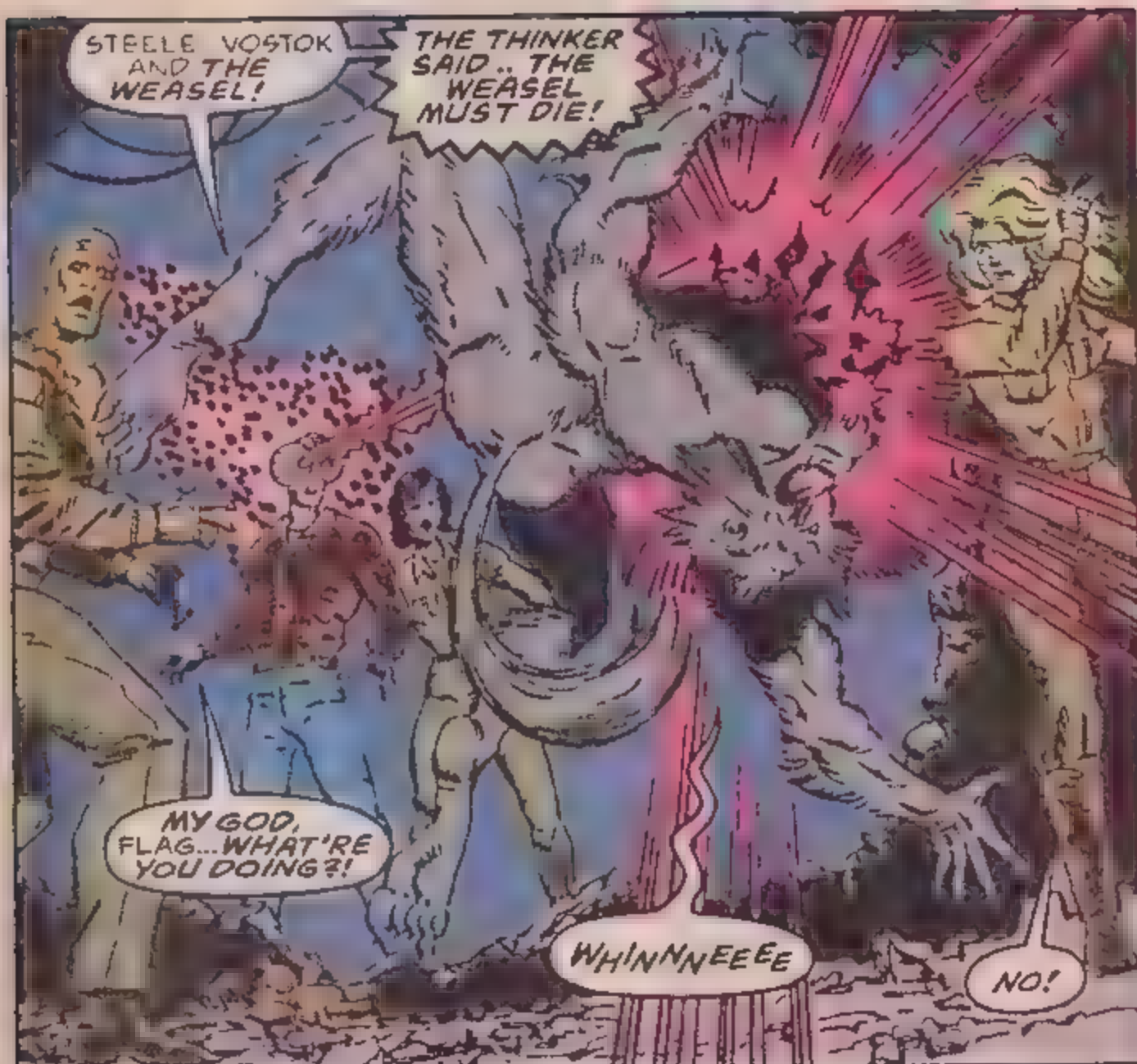
HEY--MONGO!
AREN'T YOU
GONNA ANSWER
ME?

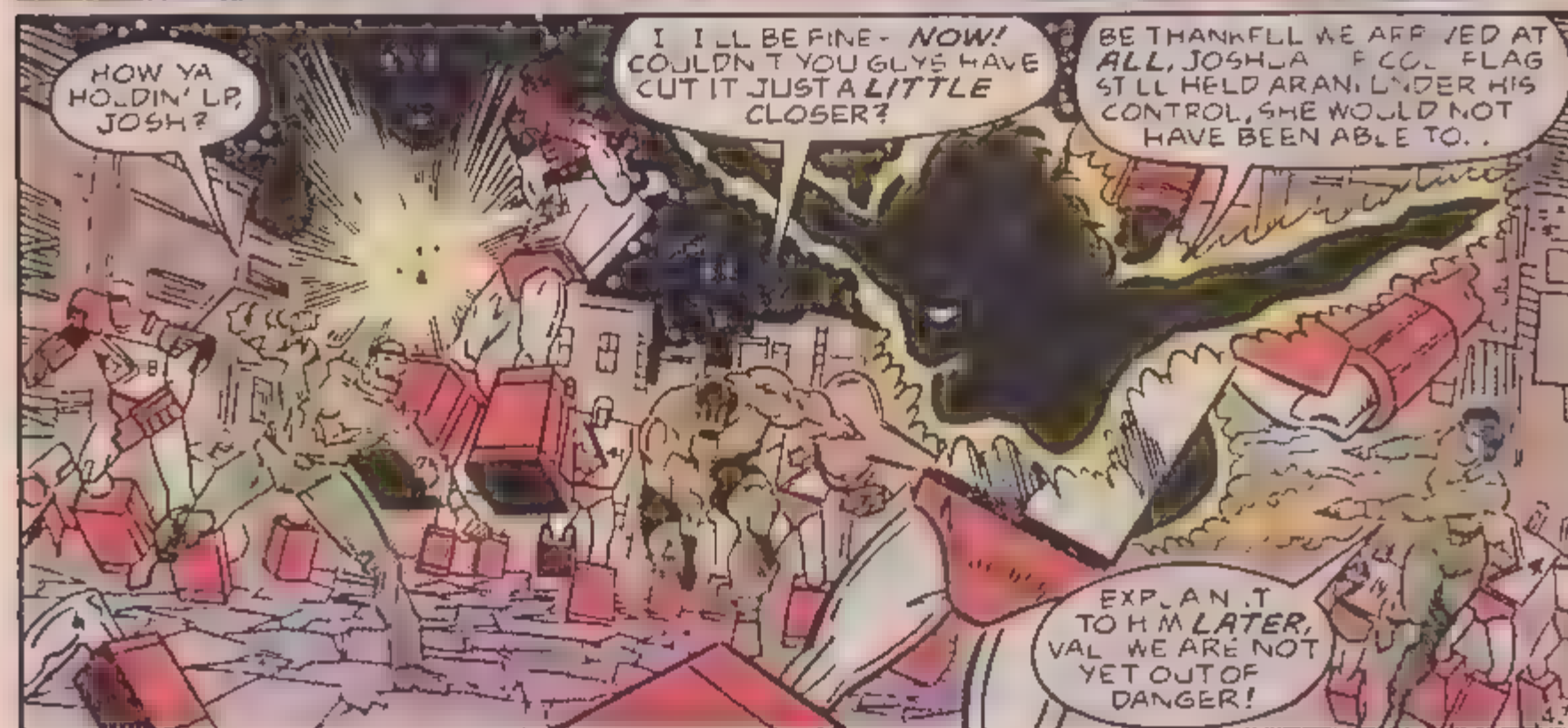
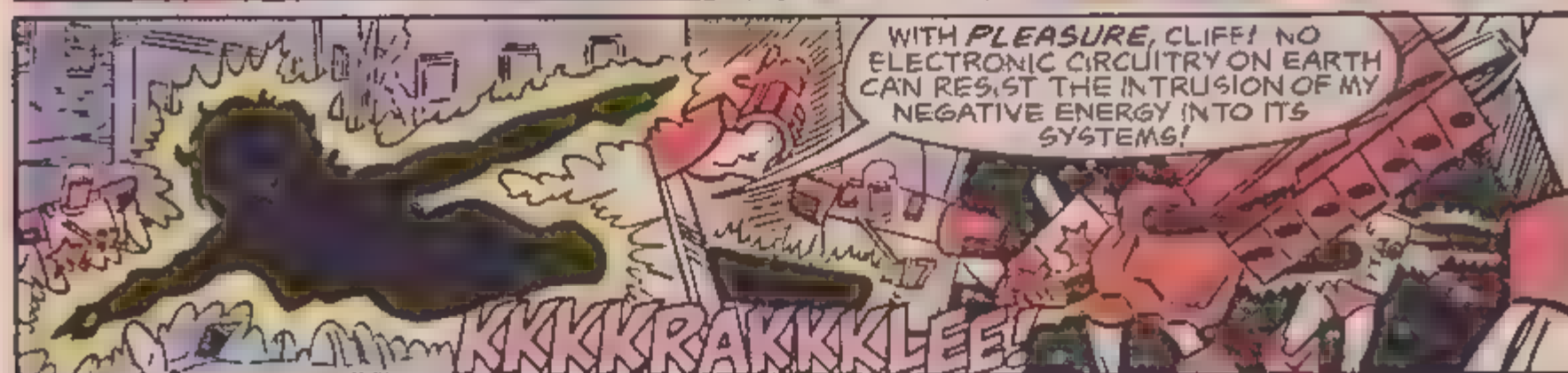
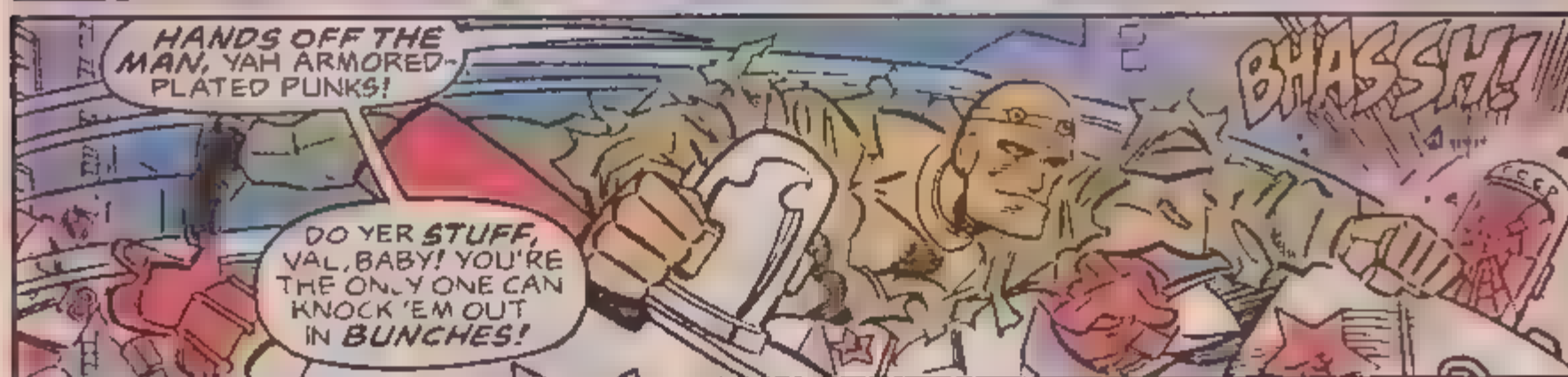
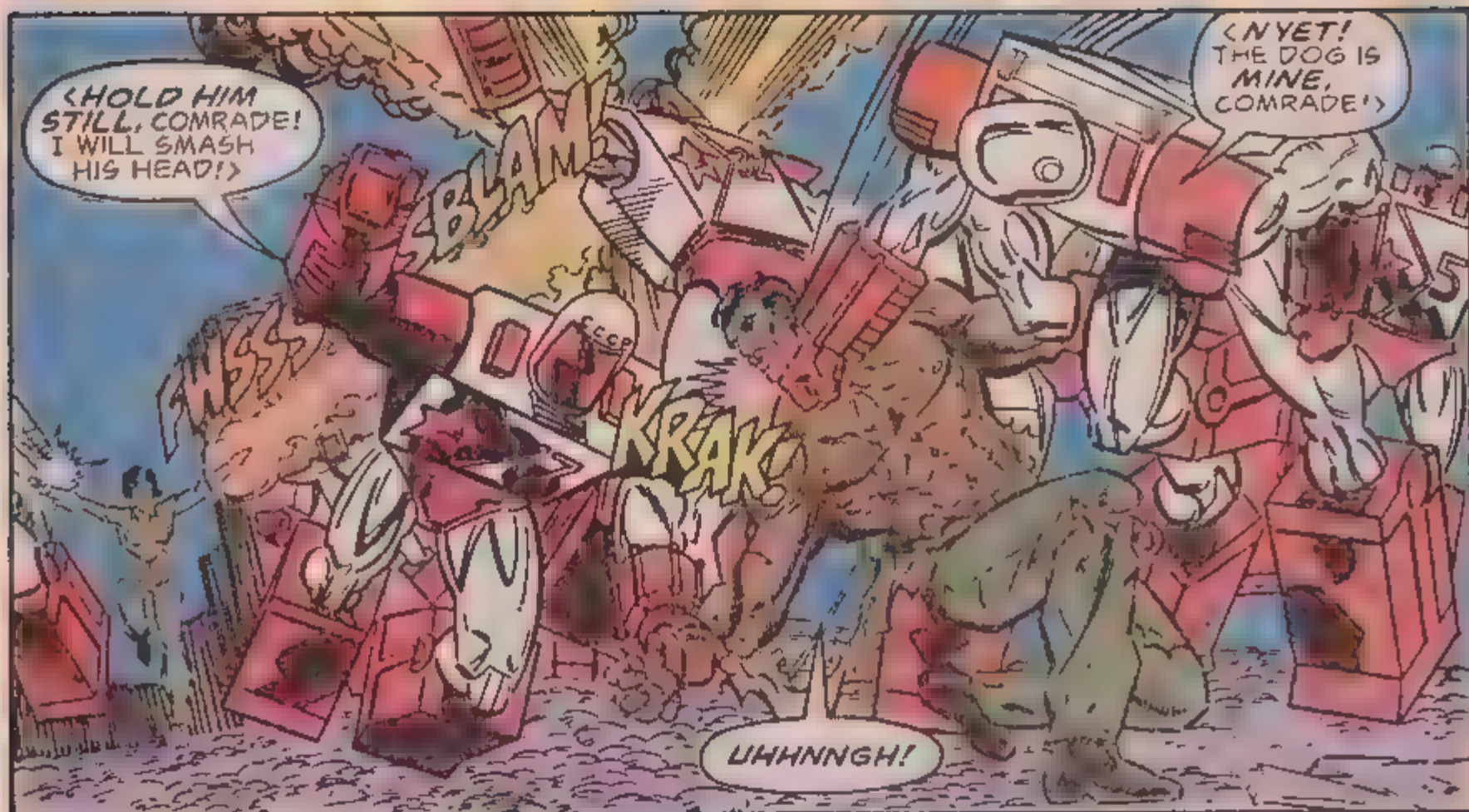
BASSH!

POW!

CRASH!









I BLASTED THAT WALL DOWN ON TOP OF THE SURVIVING ROCKET REDS, BUT IT PROBABLY WON'T TAKE THEM LONG TO DIG THEIR WAY OUT!

THEN LET'S MAKE SURE WE AIN'T STILL HERE WHEN THEY DO!

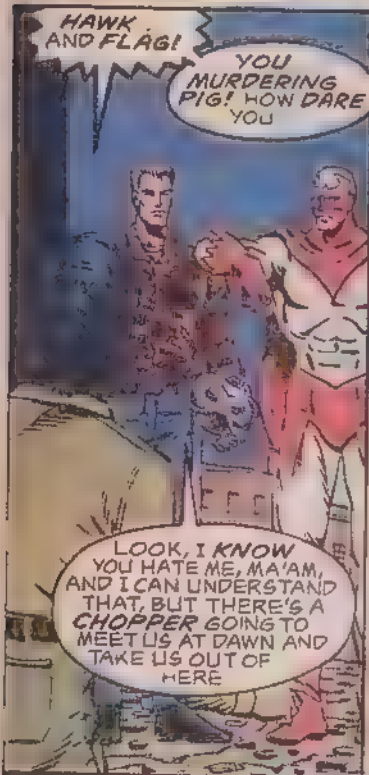


WHERE TO NOW, ARANI?

GIVE ME A MOMENT, CLIFFORD. I...

YEAH WE CAN'T EXACTLY BOOGIE OVER T'HE AIRPORT AND BOOK SEATS OUTTA HERE?

WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH US? I'VE GOT THE ROOM



HAWK AND FLAG!

YOU MURDERING PIG! HOW DARE YOU

LOOK, I KNOW YOU HATE ME, MA'AM, AND I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT THERE'S A CHOPPER GOING TO MEET US AT DAWN AND TAKE US OUT OF HERE



I WOULD RATHER DIE FIRST, MONSTER! YOU INVADDED MY MIND... MADE ME PARTY TO YOUR INSANITY AND MURDER! I...

COOL IT, 'RANI! WE NEED OUTTA HERE AND HE'S OFFERIN' US A LOT BETTER'N HAVIN' T'WALK BACK T' KANSAS CITY



WHAT'S THE RUSH? BESIDES, I STILL WANT TO FIND THE HUMONGOID WHO "RESCUED" ME!

GUY NEARLY KILLED ME I WANT TO RETURN THE FAVOR!



SHUT UP HAWK! I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED, MRS CAULDER. I GUESS I COULDN'T CONTROL THE HELMET..

I SEEN THAT KIND OF THING SCREW A GUY UP BEFORE, FLAG. A GUY NAMED STEVE DAYTON.



MENTO? I'VE HEARD OF HIM... I CAN SEE HOW EASY IT IS TO BE SEDUCED BY ALL THIS POWER.

BUT IT'LL ONLY TAKE OVER IF I PUT IT ON AGAIN AND THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN NOW, LET'S MOVE OUT.

EPILOGUE...

THERE WAS ROOM FOR MYSELF, HAWK, AND THE **SUICIDE SQUAD**.. BUT FOUR OF THEM WON'T BE GOING HOME

I KNOW THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO BE BAD GUYS, BUT THEY DIED IN A WAR I ALWAYS HATE-- LEAVING MY DEAD BEHIND ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

<I EXPECTED YOU LONG AGO, COMRADE STALNOIVOLK. I TRUST YOUR MISSION WAS SUCCESSFUL?>

<EXACTLY AS PLANNED, COMRADE MAJOR.>

<MY ONLY REGRET IS THAT I WAS NOT PERMITTED TO KILL THE AMERICAN.>

<HMMM. YES, WELL, PERHAPS NEXT TIME, MY FRIEND. FOR NOW, WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED OUR GOAL-- TARNISHING THE STERLING REPUTATION OF THE **ROCKET RED BRIGADE**.>

<WE NEED TO INSTILL THE HEROIC NATURE INTO EVERY CITIZEN OF THE SOVIET UNION, NOT RELY UPON A SMALL NUMBER OF **SPECIALISTS**! IT MAKES THE POPULACE **COMPLACENT**.>

<BUT THE POLITICIANS DO NOT SEE THE **DANGER** OF ALLOWING THE MOTHERLAND TO BECOME DEPENDENT ON ANY ONE PERSON OR THING FOR ITS SECURITY.>

<SUCH AS MYSELF.>

<PRECISELY SUCH AS YOURSELF, COMRADE STALNOIVOLK.>

<AH, WELL. AT LEAST IT PROMISES FOR AN **INTERESTING FUTURE**...>

DAY FIVE. BELLE REVE
FEDERAL PRISON.
12:15 PM, CST.

I'VE READ YOUR
REPORT, COL. FLAG.
IT WASN'T EXACTLY
THE TYPE OF MISS ON
I ENVIS ONED FOR
THE SQUAD WHEN
I CREATED IT

WE
BROUGHT
HAWK
OUT.
DIDN'T
WE?

YOU SHOULD
NEVER HAVE
BEEN SENT AFTER
HIM TO BEGIN
WITH

I MEANT WHAT I SAID
WHEN YOU HANDED
US THIS MISSION, MRS.
WALLER--I HAD MY
ORDERS, I DID MY
JOB.

DAMN IT,
FLAG.
YOU'RE
NOT
MAKING THIS
EASY FOR ME.
I'M TRYING TO
SAY I'M SORRY
IT TURNED OUT
AS IT

I KNOW.
SO AM I.

AND IT DOESN'T
MAKE A DAMN
BIT OF
DIFFERENCE.

THE KREMLIN. THE RUSSIAN
SOVIET FEDERATED SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC. 6:15 PM, GMT.

<ZASTROW! I HAD HEARD
OF YOUR RETURN...AND THE
FAILURE OF YOUR MISSION!>

<OUR
MISSION, NO, COMRADE
MAJOR? YOUR ROCKET
REDS ALSO FAILED TO
SECURE THE AMERICAN.>

<BUT THAT WAS YOUR PLAN ALL
ALONG, WASN'T IT, MY FRIEND!
BRINGING HAWK TO RUSSIA WOULD
HAVE BEEN AN ACHIEVEMENT,
BUT A MINOR ONE, DON'T YOU
AGREE?>

<OH, YES IN THE
LARGER PICTURE,
IT WAS RELATIVELY
INCONSEQUEN-
TIAL.>

<BUT AS A
POLITICAL MOVE
TO DISGRACE
ME-->

<IT WAS A PERFECT OPPOR-
TUNITY TO SEIZE MORE POWER...
RUIN ME WITH THE CHAIRMAN!
I WON'T ALLOW IT, ZASTROW!
I'LL...UNNNNGHH!>

<YOUR ANALYSIS OF MY MOTIVES
ARE QUITE ACCURATE, COMRADE
MAJOR, THOUGH YOU NEGLECT
TO TAKE ONE BIT
OF DATA INTO
CONSIDERATION-->

BLAMM!

<I AM THE FAR BETTER
POLITICIAN OF THE
TWO OF US..>



DC Comics Inc.
666 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10103

James Kahn, President and Publisher
Carmine Infantino, Vice President, Executive Editor
Mike Gold, Editor
Arthur Greenberger, Editor
Arnold Brundage, Art Director
Terry Cunningham, Managing Editor, Admin.
Pat Bashette, Managing Editor, Coordinator
Bob Rozakis, Production Director
Paul Levitz, Executive Vice President
Joe Orlando, Vice President, Creative Director
Bruce S. Shaw, Marketing Director
Matthew Ragone, Circulation Director
Patrick Cadden, Controller

Ever wonder just how something as odd as this publication comes together? You have heard about this team-up for months now and the question must have crossed your mind at least a few times: "Why Doom Patrol and Suicide Squad? Why not The Outsiders and Justice League International? Or Firestorm and Wild Dog?"

Sit back and we'll tell you a story.

When publishing every month, you expect everything to work within reasonable limits. Your writer, penciller, letterer, inker and colorist should deliver their work every 30 days and the postal service should manage to deliver it overnight. And then you rely on the speed of our crack Production Department to help make up for some lost time (more often than not, there's lost time) and then cross your fingers that there isn't a backlog at the color separator.

Barring a strike or snowbound roads, the truckers can then carry the comics on time to comic shops around the country—or, a few weeks later, to local newsstand outlets and bookstores.

But, you should ask, what would happen if something went wrong?

Well, we'd go to Plan B. Every good editor should have a Plan B. Depending upon what the problem is exactly and how much time can be lost, you vary Plan B. For example, the inker breaks his arm and can't finish the job until three weeks from now. But, the book is due to the color separator in two weeks and we're already running late. The later he is in inking this month's comic, the less time he has to ink next month's issue. Plan B, in that case, might be to get another inker to do the following issue and pray you get this one out on time.

However, in some cases, you just can't patch the problem with just substituting one person or even two. Sometimes, just to get the book back on track or buy time when changing personnel, you run the Fill-in Story.

And that's how this comic came to be.

Fellow editor Mike Gold was readying DOOM PATROL for a Summer '87 launch. Work began on the book a year earlier and everyone was humming along. Issues were being turned in and enthusiasm was running high because the book was looking good. Yet Mike wanted to make sure everything would remain smooth. He knew that penciller Steve Lightle was get-

ting many other offers and sooner or later he might choose to leave the series to pursue some other opportunity. What Mike didn't know was when that might be and how quickly he could find another artist to step in and run with the series.

At least Mike knew who he wanted in case Steve ever left the DOOM PATROL. Ever since his days at First Comics, Mike had noticed the work of a young penciller named Erik Larsen. His style was unique and his pencils were filled with vitality and life. Mike wanted to work with Erik and Erik was looking for a series to establish himself.

Still, Erik had to eat and pay rent and so on.

Mike found him some fill-in work here and there. One day, Mike was on the phone with Erik and asked him what comic would Erik most like to take a crack at. The reply was Superman. Mike put the phone down, walked down the hall to Mike Carlin's office and asked if Mr. Carlin just might need a fill-in on Superman. "Sure. I have a plot right here and he can have three weeks," Mr. Carlin said.

So, Erik got to pencil an issue of ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN. Meantime, I had come across his pencils and found them interesting and tossed him a few WHO'S WHO pages. The results were promising and can be found in issue #24, for you completists out there.

Meantime, I was running with the successful launch of SUICIDE SQUAD. However, as with every title, something went a bit awry. Inker Karl Kesel realized that he bit off more than he could chew with both SUPERMAN and SUICIDE SQUAD. He asked off the latter assignment, reluctantly, and I had to find myself another inker.

I was fortunate to find Bob Lewis a friend of Karl's and someone also looking for a series to do. However, the transition meant that Bob started off behind schedule and had to scramble to catch the series back on time.

In conversation, Mike and I realized that we would both need fill-in issues for our fledgling series—just to be safe. Neither of us remembers who suggested it, but I'm pretty certain it was Mike who decided that we would benefit from a two-part fill-in where the Doom Patrol met the Suicide Squad. After all, the two books had some legitimate connections given

Val Vostok's government connections. She headed the Covert Intelligence division of a government funded agency that turned out to be Task Force X, the same birthing place of the Suicide Squad (that division has since metamorphosized into something entirely different and we refer you to CHECKMATE! #1, which goes on sale next week).

The two-parter would be designed in such a way as to fit as two-issues of DOOM PATROL or two issues of SUICIDE SQUAD or one of each. We would bring in talent from both series to produce it, adding some legitimacy to the pairing and thus a stunt was born.

Given their schedules, John Ostrander, writer of SUICIDE SQUAD, found he could plot the two-parter sooner than PATROL scribe Paul Kupperberg. As 1987 progressed, John turned in two neat plots that involved politics, super-heroes, more politics and some heated battles between our teams.

Still, since these were unscheduled tales, who would serve on both sides?

John and Paul wrestled with that one and it was decided to go with the core Doom Patrol members since the newcomers could also be left back at their Kansas City base. For the Squad, we found a handful of villains that had outlived their usefulness to the new DC Universe and secured permission to use them for the last time. There, that was easy.

Erik began pencilling the stories as spring wore on and things were going really well.

In fact, just as SUICIDE SQUAD was a hit, DOOM PATROL debuted as a smash success. It became obvious that this time the comics audience was ready for the team and the series has been on our best seller list ever since. Bob Lewis, meantime, caught up on the deadlines and even pulled ahead a bit.

Mike and I realized that we didn't have to worry about needing fill-ins quite yet. But Mike, ever thinking as he is, had an idea.

If both books were a hit, what about a holiday package with the team-up? A no-ads meeting of the teams that would make sure the readers of SUICIDE SQUAD knew about DOOM PATROL and vice versa?

DC's management knew a good idea when they heard one and promptly scheduled this special for Christmas.

As soon as that word came down, Mike and I poured through the completed pencils and reviewed the two plots. What would be required to tie these two stories together so they worked seamlessly—without a month's wait? Paul came up with a bit more of the political angle; Erik redrew a page and added another and—*viola!*—a double-length one-part story with extra meat.

With that in mind, John and Paul easily found places in the continuity to fit the story. For the record, this mission takes place simultaneously with the story now seen in **SUICIDE SQUAD #11-12**. The rest of the Squad has their hands full as they aid Speedy (of **NEW TEEN TITANS** fame) in busting a drug dealer down in Colombia. The story makes up for Rick Flag's absence by making Nightshade leader and brings in Black Orchid. Oh yeah, and Vixen guest stars.

At the end of **DOOM PATROL #6** two weeks ago, the group is asked to help out with the Nicaragua situation. While they're down here, the new kids in the team go for a night on the town in issue #7 next month. While cruising the club scene, they encounter the menace of Shrapnel and get to learn what they can do without the veteran members.

Oh yeah, and #6 marked Erik Larsen's debut as penciller on **DOOM PATROL**.

Just as Mike suspected, Steve found the monthly commitment to **DOOM PATROL** more than a task. He bowed out after finishing issue #5 and is now busily working on covers for a handful of our titles and illustrating a history section for the seven volume **WHO'S WHO IN THE LEGION** starting next month.

Erik proved he had the right stuff for the **Doom Patrol** after this story was completed. Mike knew it would be a matter of time before Erik would be pressed in to service but at least Erik had a chance to help out Andy Helfer close **THE OUTSIDERS** by penciling the final two issues—both **MILLENNIUM** crossovers, for you indexers.

Somewhere during all of the above, Mike got loaded down with more and more projects—things like **WASTELAND** and **FLASH GORDON**. Some of his editorial assignments would have to be moved around. Since we worked so closely on this Special together, it made sense for Mike to pass **DOOM PATROL** my way. So, as Steve left with issue #5, so did Mike as line editor. Erik and I made our splash with issue #6 and really strut out stuff next month (for example, Erik created Shrapnel and handed him to Paul and said, "Here, I want to use him.").

As in any good comic, let us take a moment to talk about the creators of the story. This way, if you like what

they did here, you can seek out their other current projects.

Plotter John Ostrander is a rather busy man these days. First of all, he continues to write *Grimjack* for First Comics. Secondly, he spends most of the rest of his time writing for DC. He is the man who turned **FIRESTORM** around last summer and made it the sleeper hit for 1987. The series keeps hitting new highs and is worth a look. John has been with **SUICIDE SQUAD** since I first mentioned the name to him and said, "Here's a nifty title, let's do something with it."

John also co-writes numerous projects such as teaming with Del Close to bring us monthly journeys through a tortured psyche in **WASTELAND**. He has begun writing with his new wife, Kim Yale, and their first project for DC will be a monthly series featuring **MANHUNTER**, Mark Shaw who was last seen in **SUICIDE SQUAD #10**. That book will start up this coming Spring. John and Kim share their Chicago apartment with two large, deadly-but-loveable dogs.

Dialoguer Paul Kupperberg has been waiting nearly a decade to write a monthly **DOOM PATROL** series. The wait was worth it when one considers the sales figures and positive mail response. This has been a very good year for Paul since he received nothing but rave reviews for his work on the **PHANTOM STRANGER** mini-series and **DP**. He also found time to write a fitting ending to **VIGILANTE**, as seen in issue #50 last month. And, god knows how, Paul managed to fit in a **PEACEMAKER** mini-series, now in its third issue. As soon as Paul wraps up **Peacemaker's** mission of world peace, he will embark on a mini-series starring **POWER GIRL** (and edited by yours truly). He is the co-creator and writer on **CHECKMATE!**, with art by Steve Erwin, which premieres in just a week. Paul is also learning how to drive now that he has relocated to the wilds of Connecticut.

Penciller Erik Larsen has had his career banded about throughout this article so there is little left to say about this very imaginative and talented newcomer. He lives in San Francisco and shares a studio with JLI's Al Gordon and Pete McDonnell, brother

of **SUICIDE SQUAD's** Luke McDonnell.

Inker Bob Lewis did some fill-in inking for us throughout 1986. He inked Luke's last issue of **JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA**, an issue of **BOOSTER GOLD**, bunches of **WHO'S WHO** pages and a handful of **STAR TREK** covers. Then, when Karl bowed out of **SS**, Bob joyfully stepped in. Another Connecticut resident, Bob continues on **SUICIDE SQUAD** and figures he'll be with that series until issue #35 or so. After that is any one's guess.

Mike Gold, just to be complete about this, is DC's Director of Development and currently edits **SONIC DISRUPTORS**, **WASTELAND**, **GREEN ARROW**, **BLACKHAWK**, **FLASH GORDON** and loads of one-shots like **SUPERMAN 3-D** and **FOCUS**. As DoD, Mike is working with a number of us editors on launching new ideas. He's working with Barbara Randall on **FLASH** and **PEACEMAKER**; with Jonathan Peterson on **BLACKHAWK** and **CHECKMATE!** and with me on everything else. Plus a secret new project that will blow your socks off next spring.

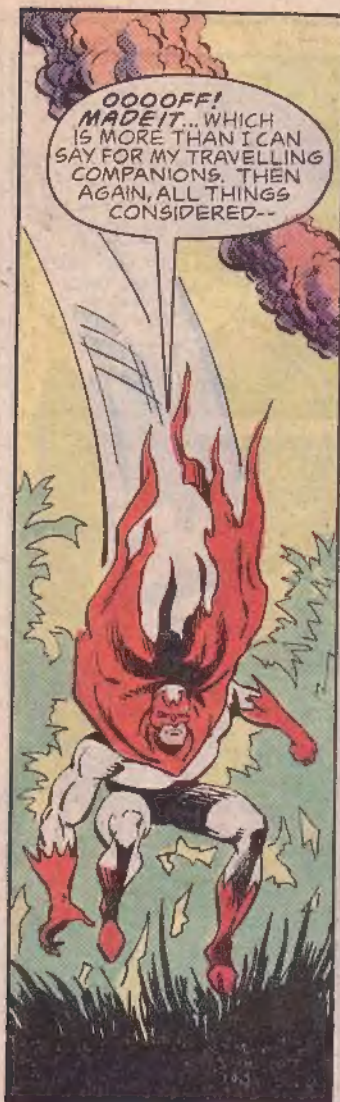
And me, I'm working with Mike on the just-out hardcover collection of **THE GREATEST SUPERMAN STORIES EVER TOLD** and **THE PHANTOM** mini-series coming in February. Together, with Barbara and Mike, we form DC's Development Team and you'll be seeing our names on a lot of other stuff in the months to come. On my own, I edit **SPECTRE**, **STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION**, **WARLORD**, **SUICIDE SQUAD**, and **DOOM PATROL**.

By all means, drop us a line, telling us what you thought of this package. If it meets with approval, we'll try it again—either with the same teams or maybe with some others that you suggest. We're always game for a challenging idea or in-depth letters. We'll print some comments in both **DP** and **SS** in coming months so check both places for your name. Sneaky, ain't we?

Thanks for joining us and we look forward to chatting again in some other introductory space.

—Bob Greenberger





OOOOF!
MADE IT... WHICH
IS MORE THAN I CAN
SAY FOR MY TRAVELLING
COMPANIONS. THEN
AGAIN, ALL THINGS
CONSIDERED--



--MAYBE
THEY'RE
THE LUCK
ONES!



¡HACE ALTO,
HOMBRE!
¿QUIEN ES
USTED?



ME? I'M YOUR AVERAGE
ALL-AMERICAN GUY FED
UP WITH THE COMMIES
MAKING A MESS OUT OF
THE U.S.A.'S BACKYARD!

KHRAK!

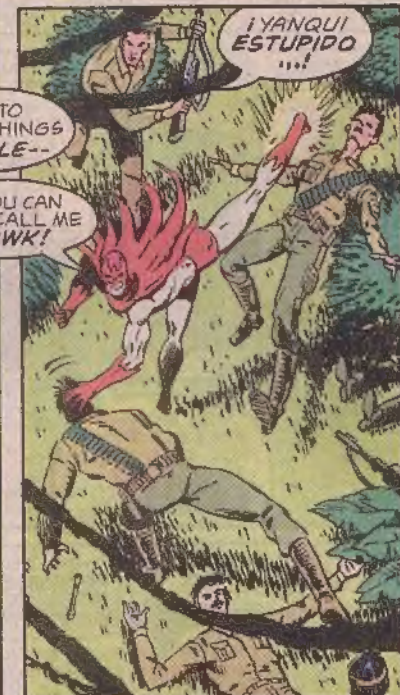


WHAK!



BUT TO
KEEP THINGS
SIMPLE--
--YOU CAN
JUST CALL ME
HAWK!

THUCK



¡YANQUI
ESTUPIDO
...!

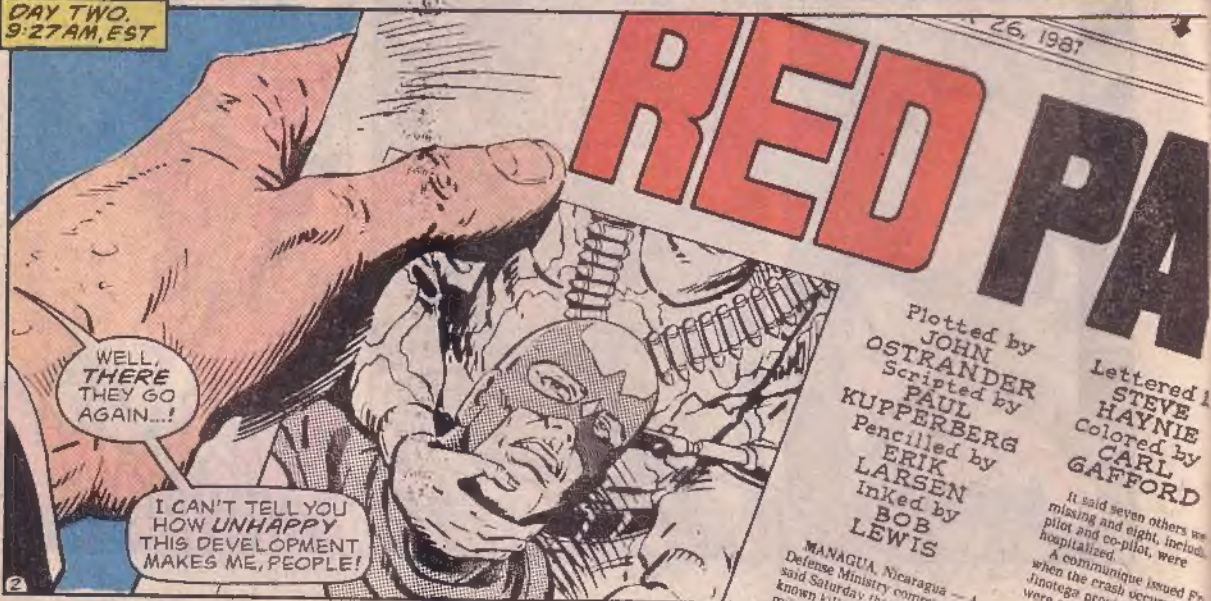


WHAM!



TENGO LE,
INO HARA
DIFICULTAD
AHORA!

DAY TWO.
9:27 AM, EST

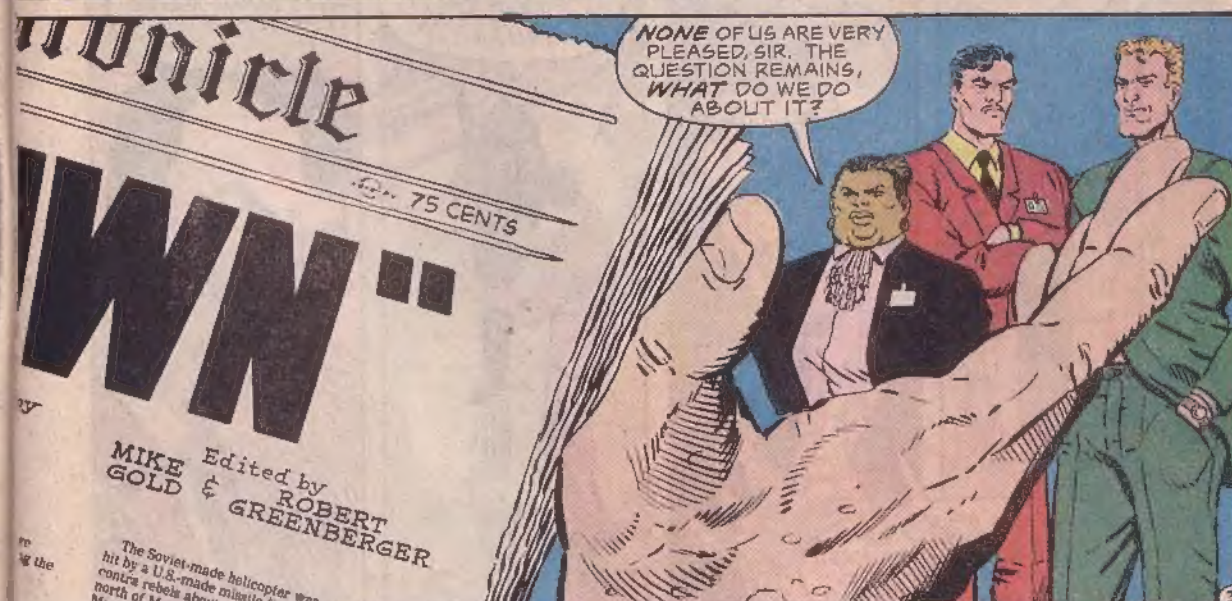


RED PAWN

Plotted by
JOHN
OSTRANDER
Scripted by
PAUL
KUPPERBERG
Pencilled by
ERIK
LARSEN
Inked by
BOB
LEWIS

Lettered by
STEVE
HAYNIE
Colored by
CARL
GAFFORD

MANAGUA, Nicaragua
Defense Ministry commu-
said Saturday the com-
known hit-



The Chronicle

75 CENTS

Edited by
ROBERT
GREENBERGER
MIKE
GOLD &

The Soviet-made helicopter was
hit by a U.S.-made missile fire-
contra rebels about 100 miles
north of Managua.

NONE OF US ARE VERY
PLEASED, SIR. THE
QUESTION REMAINS,
WHAT DO WE DO
ABOUT IT?

